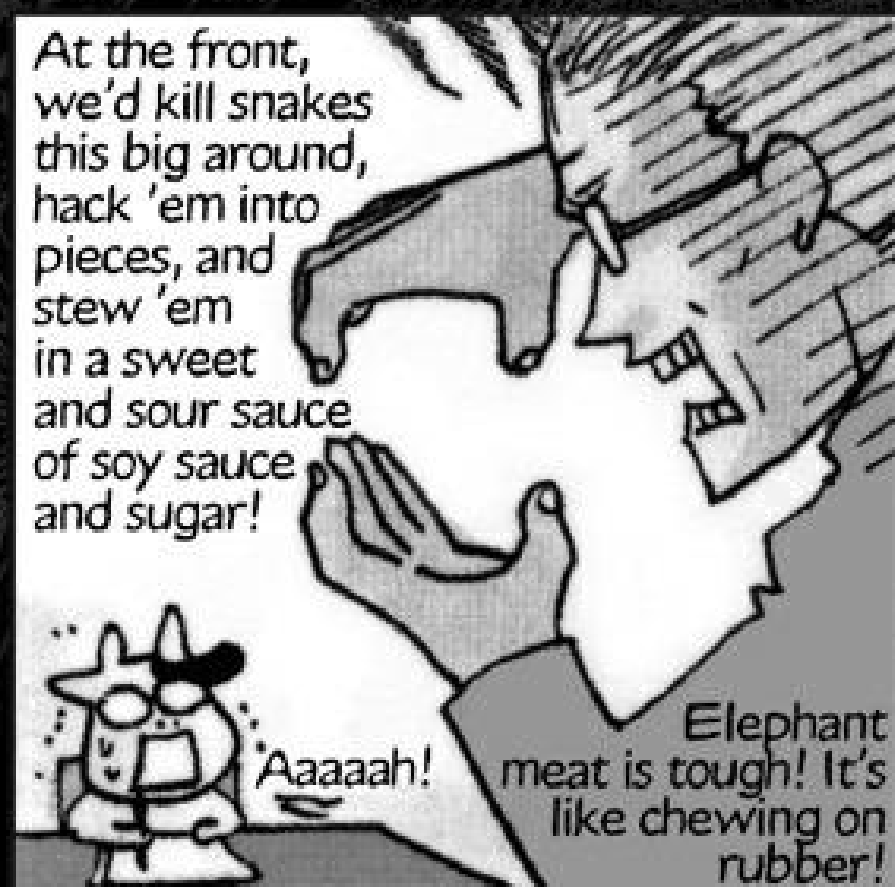


FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST™



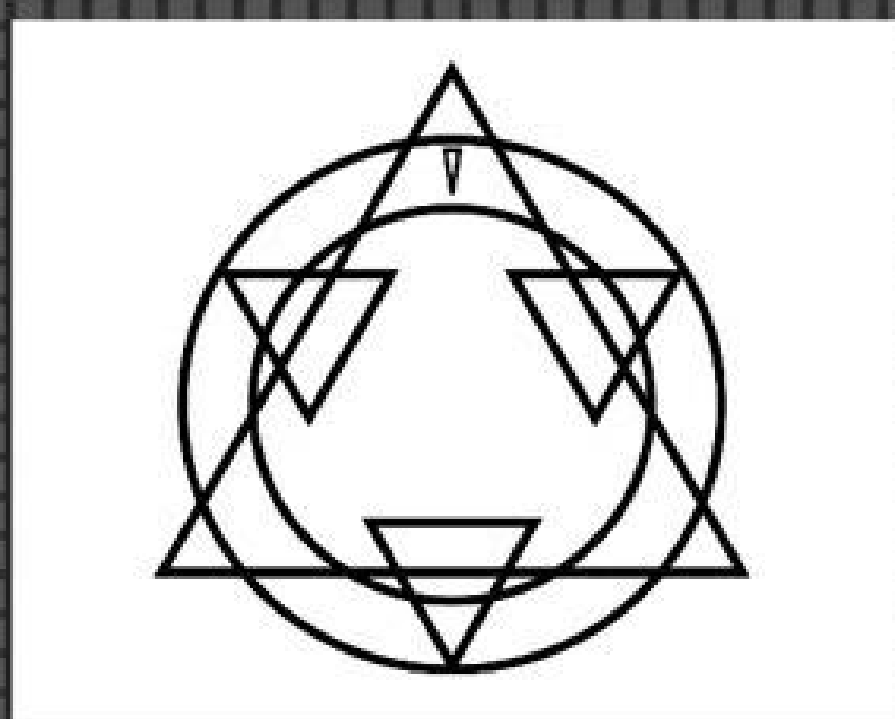
STORY AND ART BY
HIROMU ARAKAWA

15



In researching this volume, I interviewed veterans who had been at the front during World War II. I read countless books, examined film footage, and listened to many detailed and intense stories firsthand, but the one comment that affected me the most came from a former soldier who lowered his gaze to the tabletop and said, "I never watch war movies."

—Hiromu Arakawa, 2006



Born in Hokkaido (northern Japan), Hiromu Arakawa first attracted national attention in 1999 with her award-winning manga *Stray Dog*. Her series *Fullmetal Alchemist* debuted in 2001 in Square Enix's monthly manga anthology *Shonen Gangan*.



FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST



金の錬金術師
FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

15

荒川弘

HIROMU ARAKAWA



鋼の錬金術師

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

CHARACTERS

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST



□ ウィンリィ・ロックベル

Winry Rockbell



□ スカー

Scar



□ リザ・ホークアイ

Riza Hawkeye



□ キング・ブラッドレイ

King Bradley



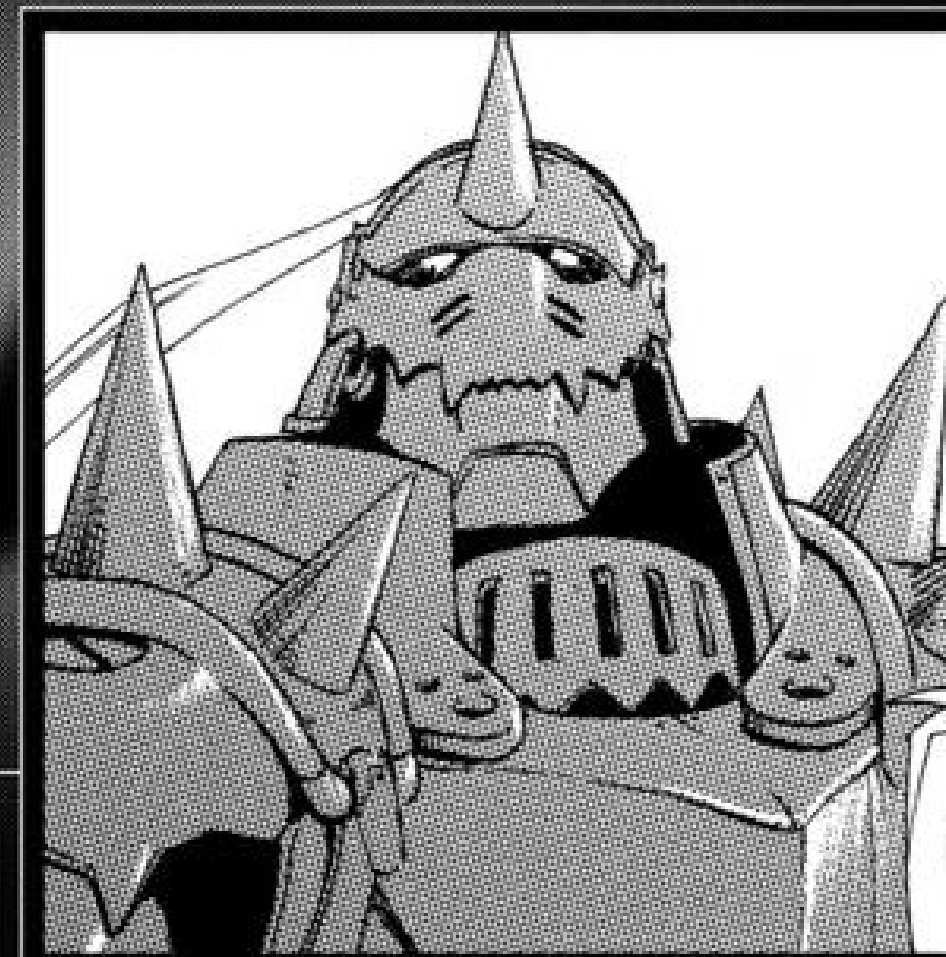
□ ゾルフ・J・キンブリー

Solf J. Kimblee



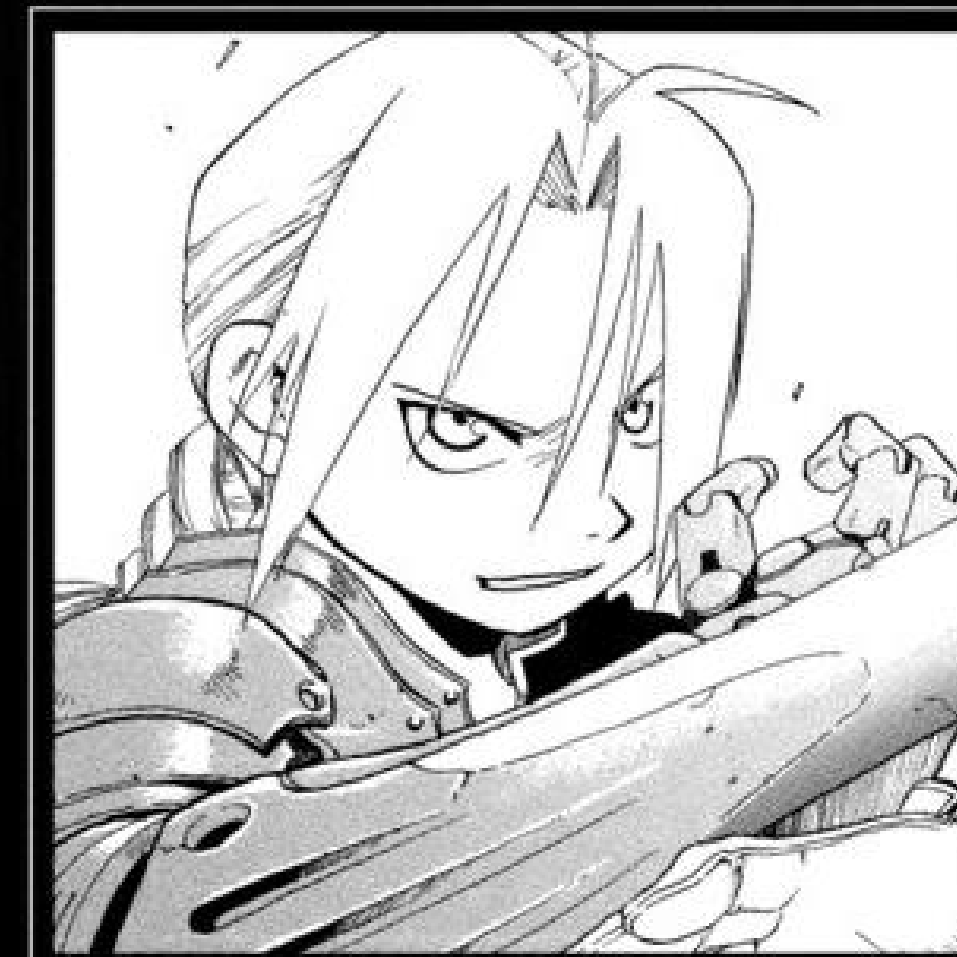
□ マース・ヒューズ

Maes Hughes



□ アルフォンス・エルリック

Alphonse Elric



□ エドワード・エルリック

Edward Elric



□ アレックス・ルイ・アームストロング

Alex Louis Armstrong



□ ロイ・マスタング

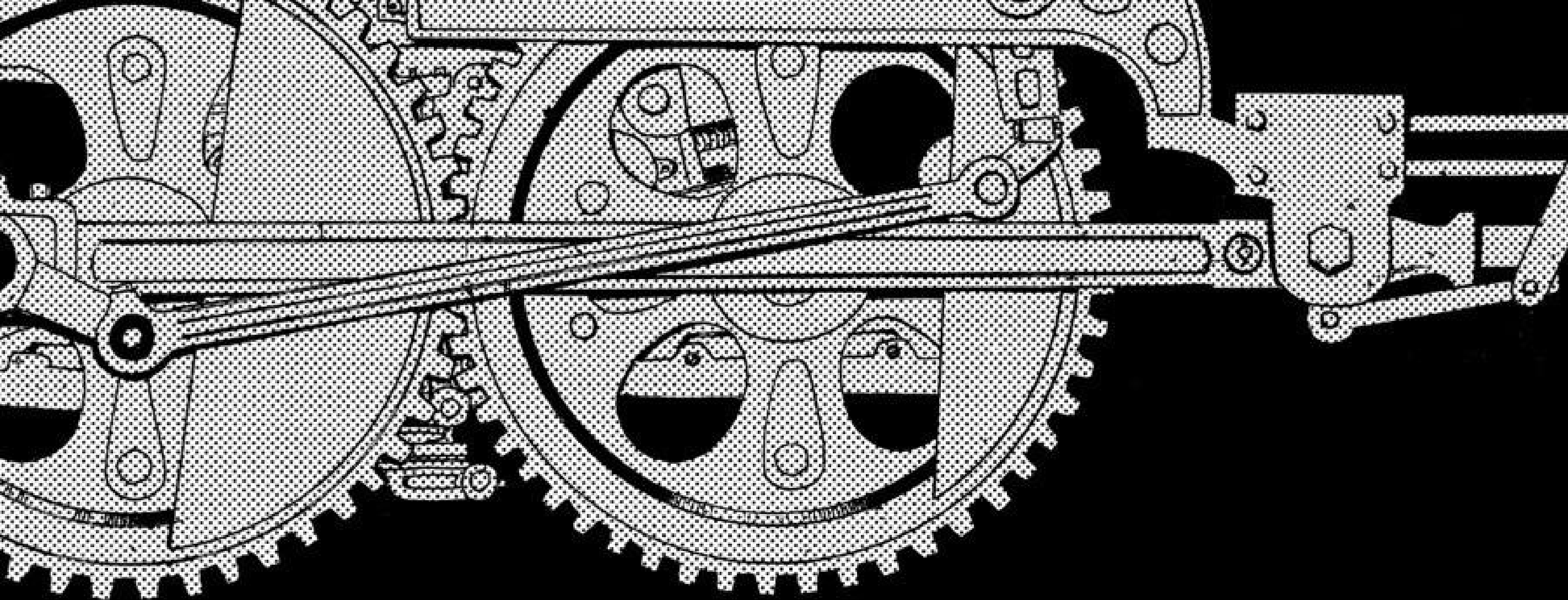
Roy Mustang

OUTLINE

FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST

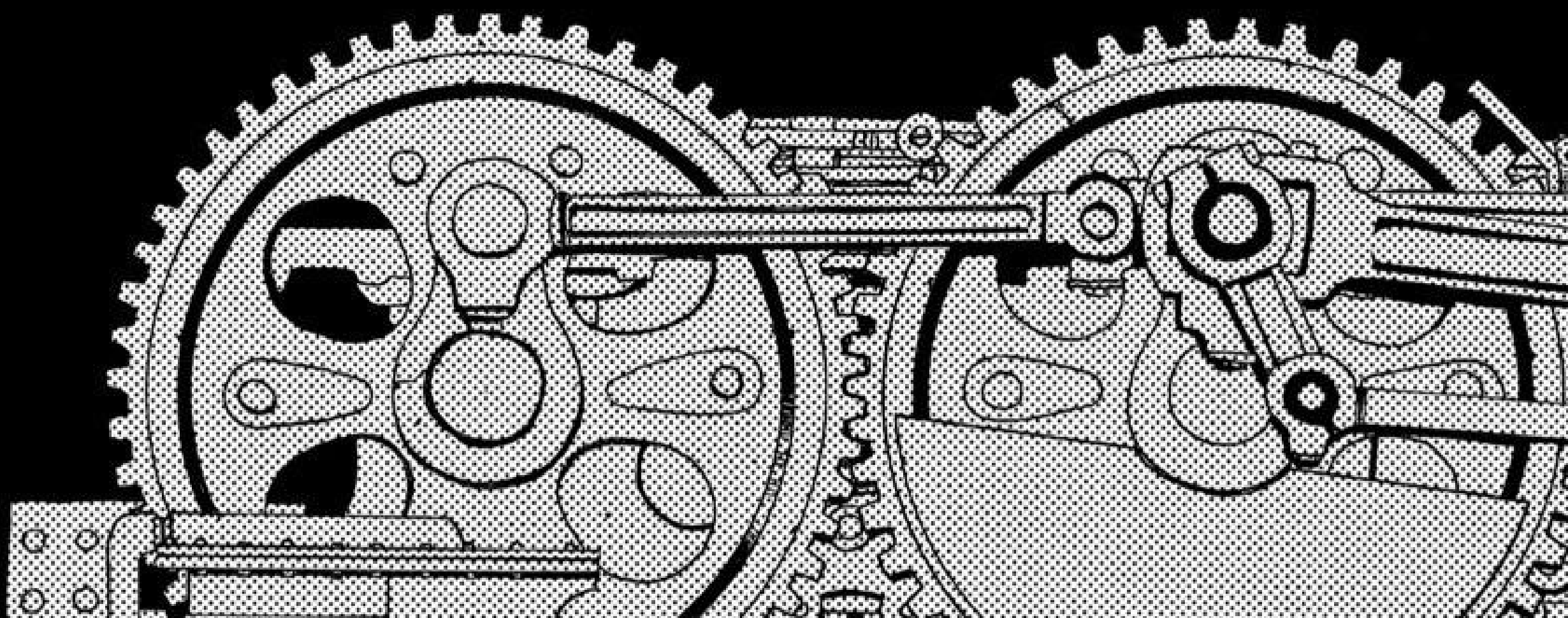
The Elrics' plan to capture and interrogate Gluttony, one of the evil and nigh-invulnerable homunculi, goes awry when his "sibling" Envy crashes the party. Gluttony reveals his true bestial form and, in a rage, swallows Ed, Lin, and Envy, sending the three of them into a dark void eerily containing a large amount of rubble and...blood. Al, fearing his brother lost forever, demands that Gluttony take him to the mysterious "father" of the homunculi...

The Elric Brothers have made a shocking discovery—the Amestris President, King Bradley, is a Homunculus—an artificial human born of the Philosopher's Stone. Even more shocking, Bradley's rise to power was orchestrated by the military, and his master, the mysterious "Father," wants the Elrics alive for some nefarious purpose. Meanwhile, Lin, in his quest to discover the secret to immortality, has done the unthinkable—surrendered his body to "Greed," giving new life to the fallen Homunculus.



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YES,
MASTER.



SO YOU
BECAME
A SOLDIER
AFTER
ALL...

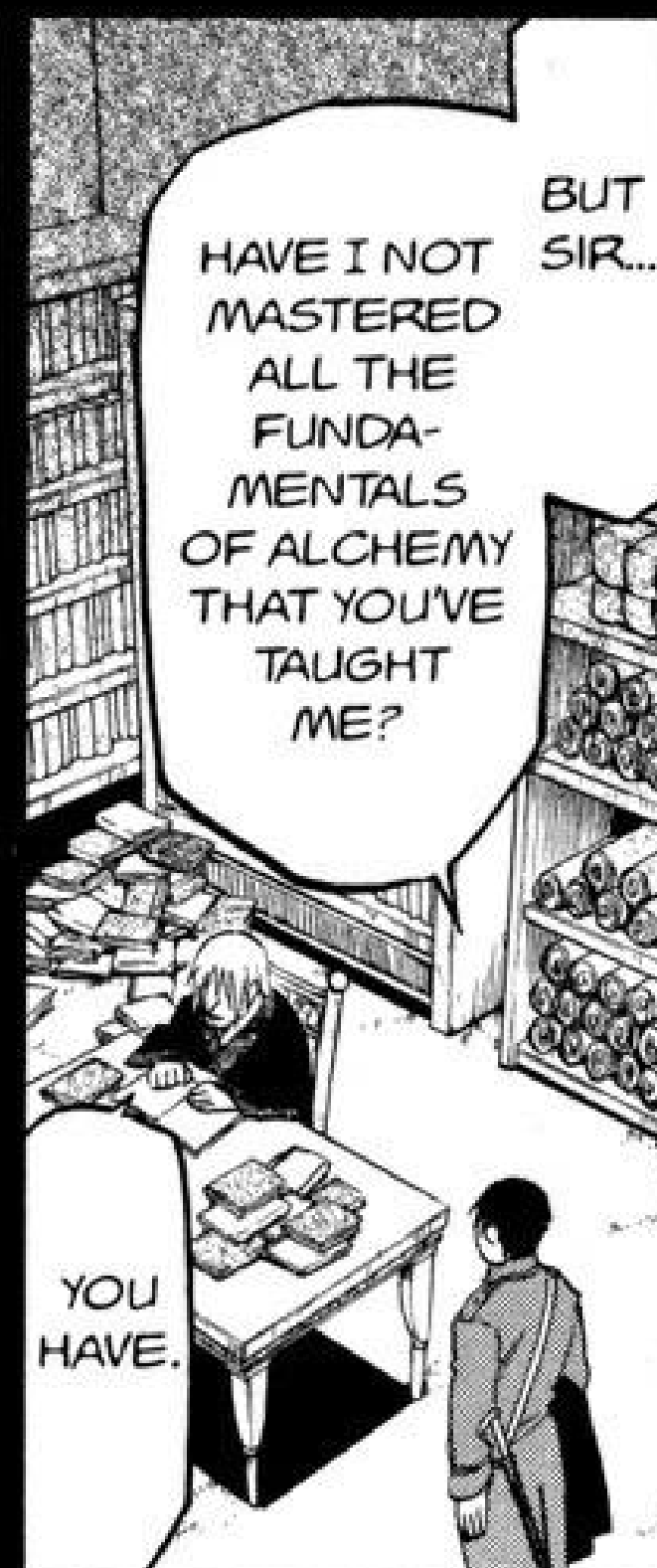
...ROY.



MY GOAL IS TO
PASS THE STATE
ALCHEMIST'S
TEST AND
DEVOTE MYSELF
TO SERVING
MY COUNTRY.

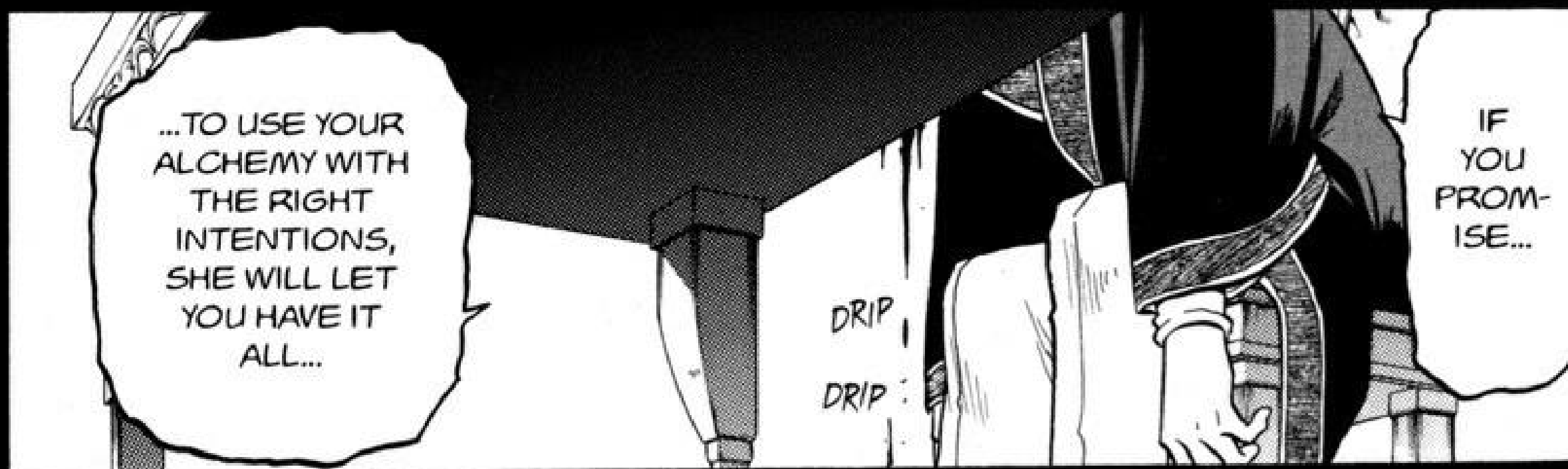
APPARENTLY
YOU'RE
STILL NOT
READY TO
LEARN MY
FLAME
ALCHEMY.

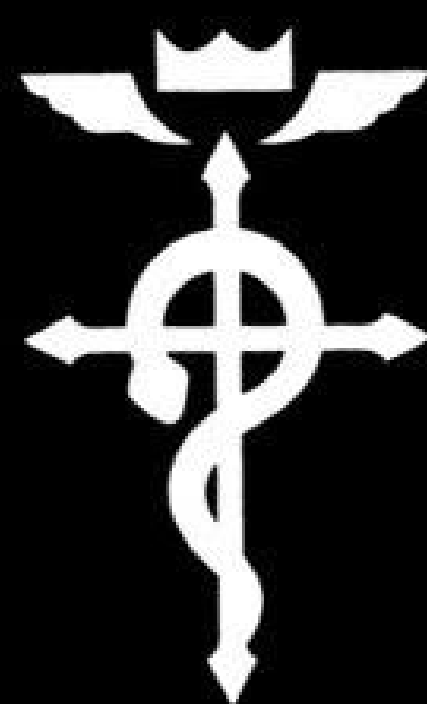












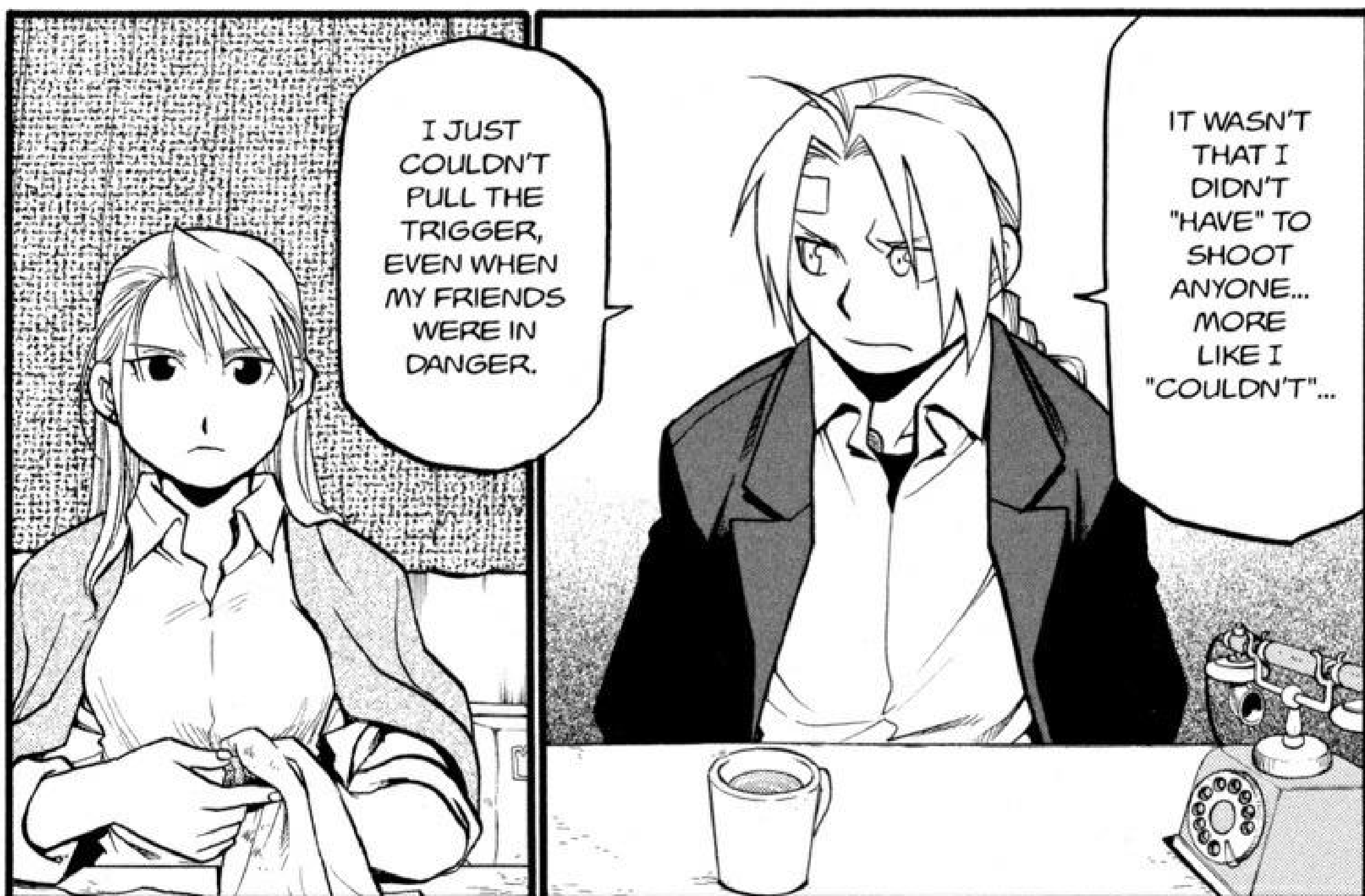
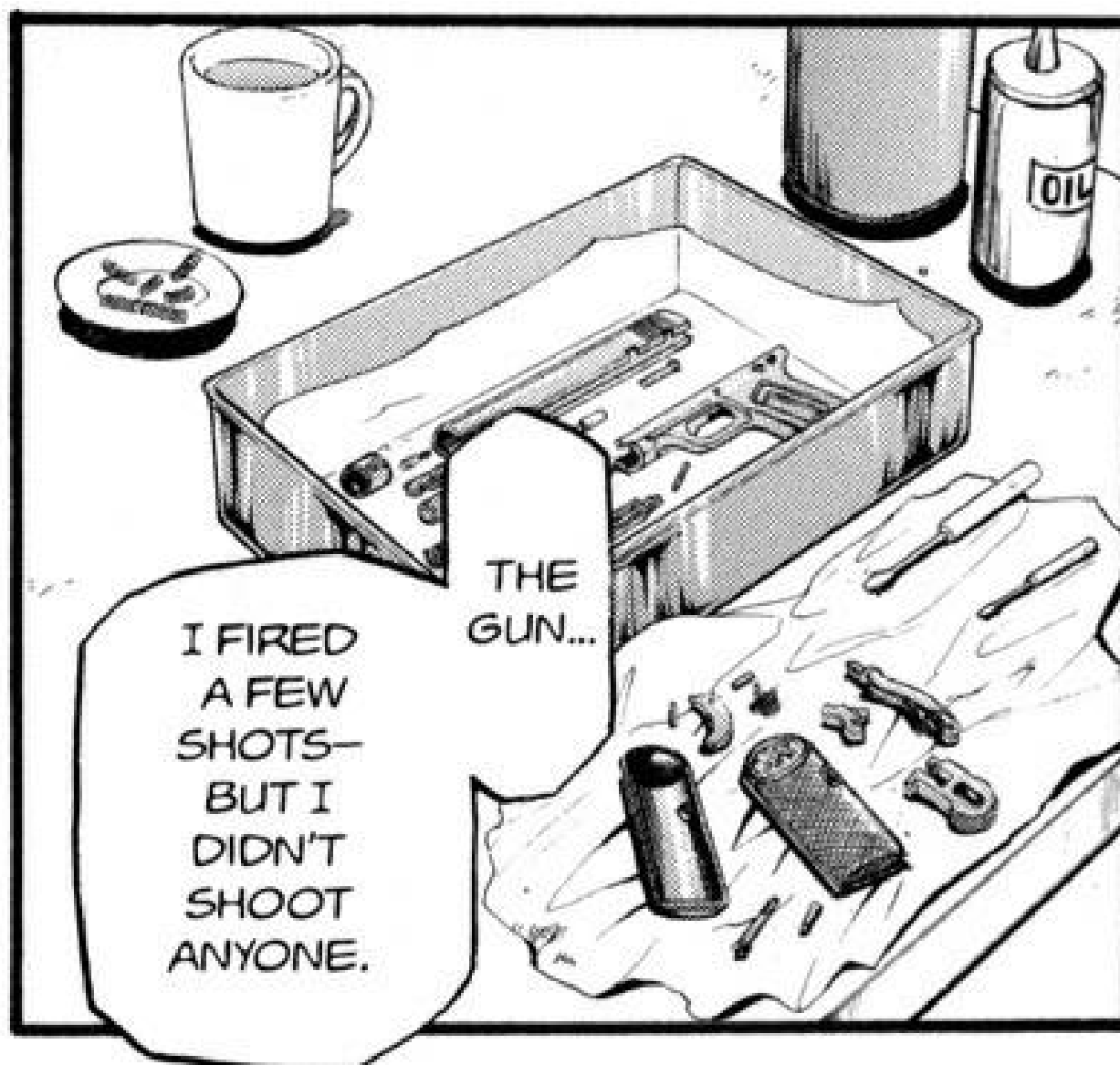
Chapter 58

The Footsteps of Ruin











...BUT
WHEN
THAT
TIME
CAME,
I JUST
COULDN'T
FIRE.

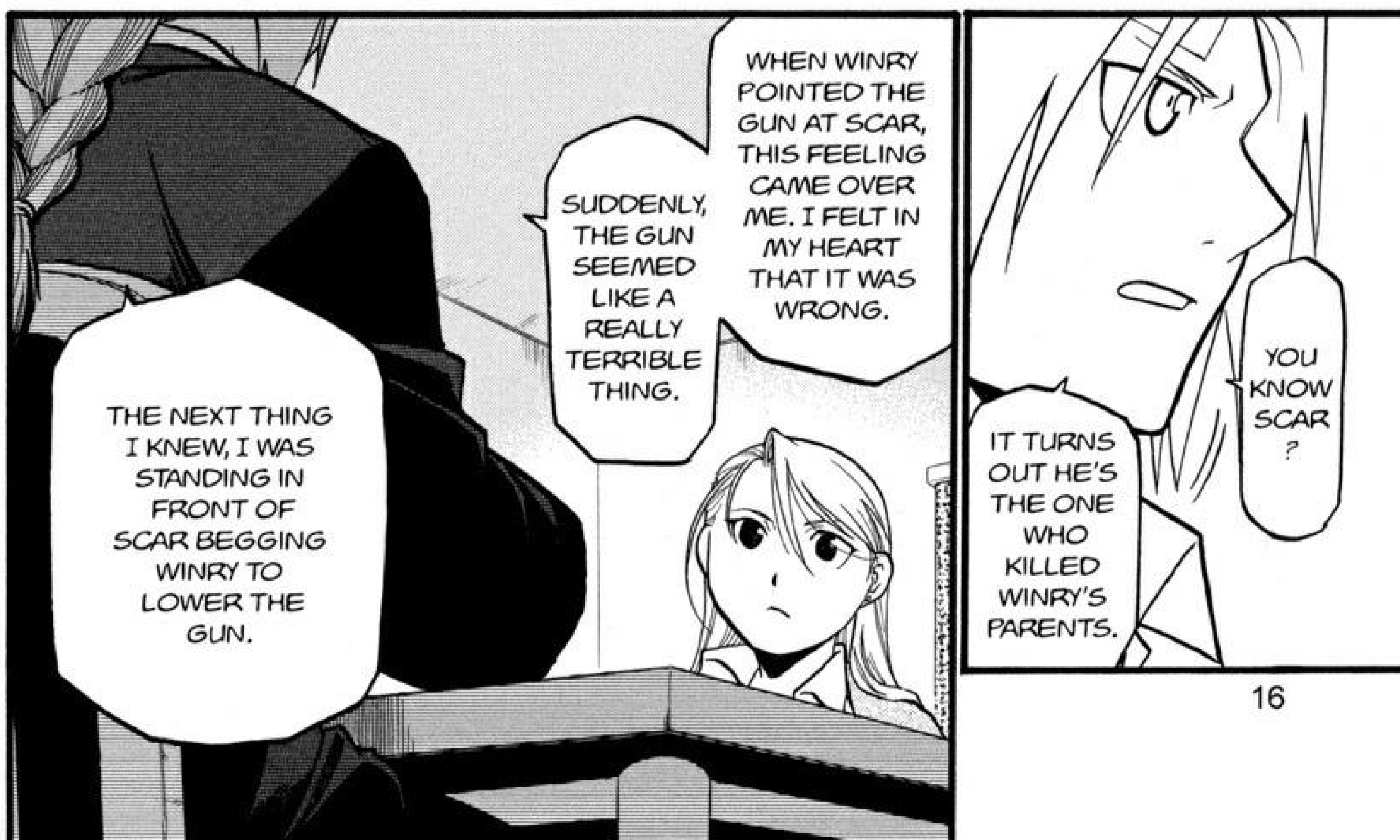
WORKING FOR
THE MILITARY,
I'VE GROWN USED
TO THE SIGHT
OF GUNS. AND
I WAS SURE
THAT ONE DAY
I'D HAVE TO
USE ONE...



TELL
ME
WHAT
HAP-
PENED...

MY
LACK OF
RESOLVE
IS ALWAYS
CAUSING
TROUBLE
FOR THE
PEOPLE
AROUND
ME.

I'M
PATHE-
TIC.



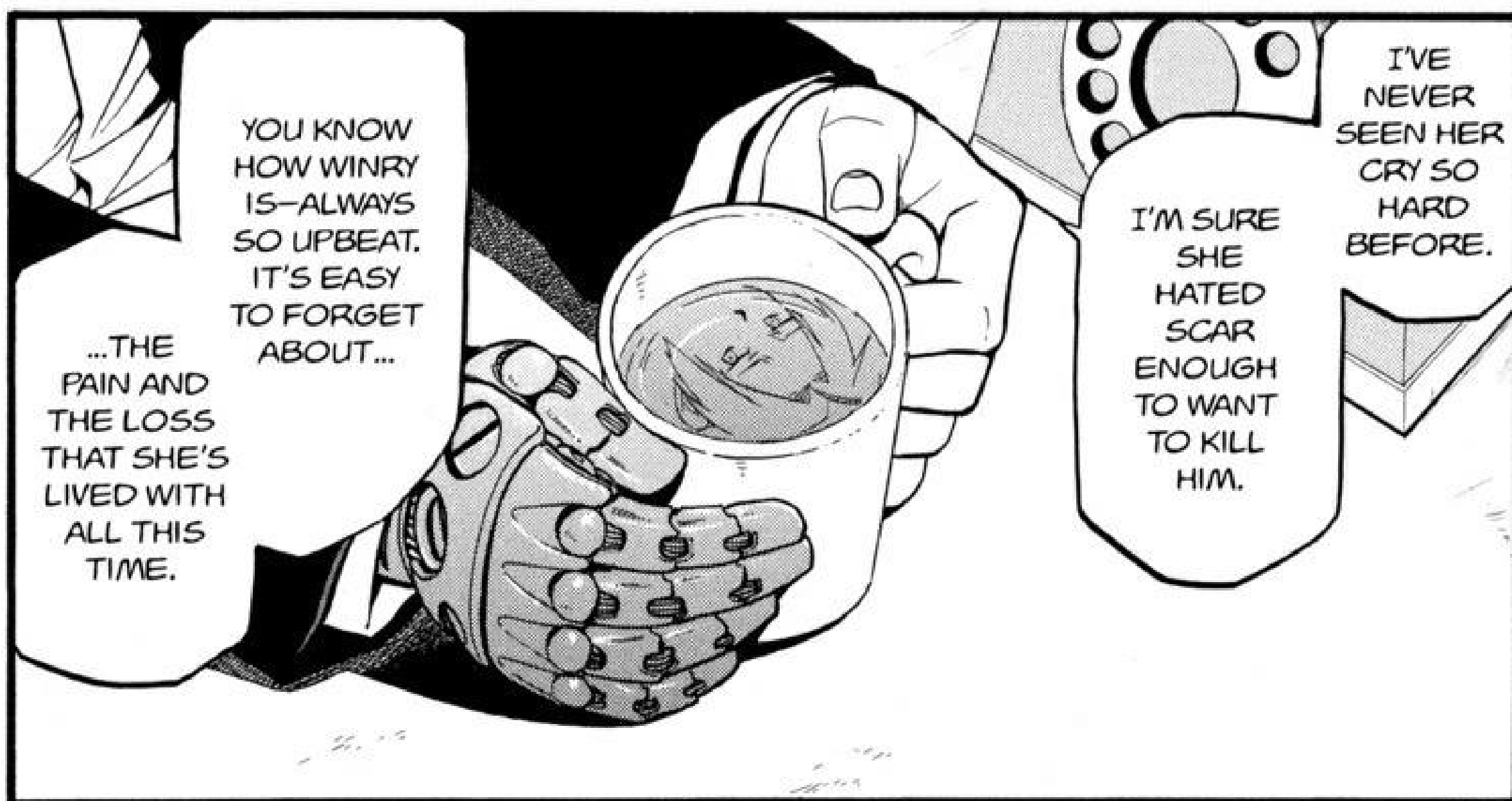
THE NEXT THING
I KNEW, I WAS
STANDING IN
FRONT OF
SCAR BEGGING
WINRY TO
LOWER THE
GUN.

SUDDENLY,
THE GUN
SEEMED
LIKE A
REALLY
TERRIBLE
THING.

WHEN WINRY
POINTED THE
GUN AT SCAR,
THIS FEELING
CAME OVER
ME. I FELT IN
MY HEART
THAT IT WAS
WRONG.

IT TURNS
OUT HE'S
THE ONE
WHO
KILLED
WINRY'S
PARENTS.

YOU
KNOW
SCAR
?

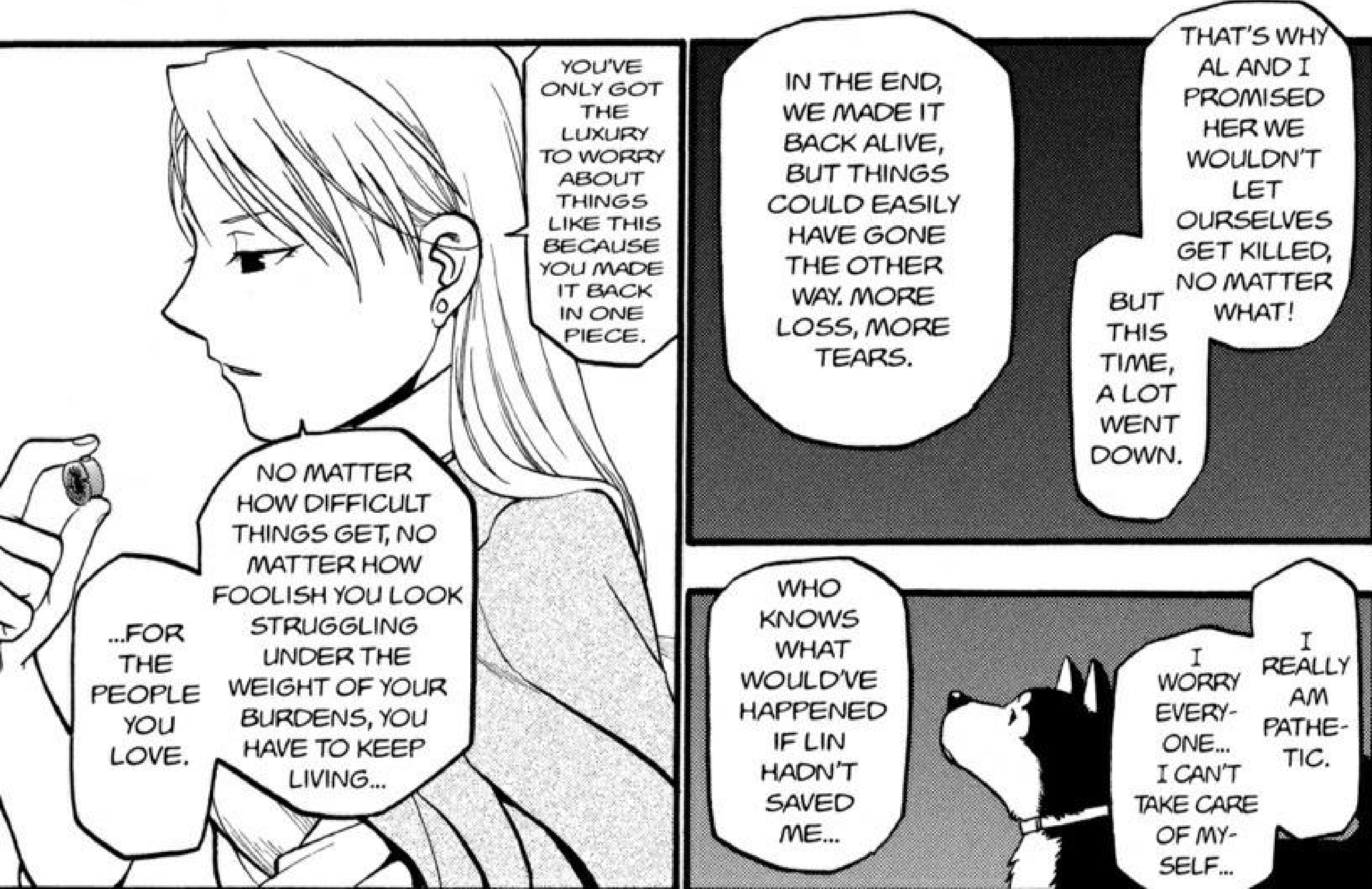


...THE PAIN AND THE LOSS THAT SHE'S LIVED WITH ALL THIS TIME.

YOU KNOW HOW WINRY IS—ALWAYS SO UPBEAT. IT'S EASY TO FORGET ABOUT...

I'M SURE SHE HATED SCAR ENOUGH TO WANT TO KILL HIM.

I'VE NEVER SEEN HER CRY SO HARD BEFORE.



...FOR THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE.

NO MATTER HOW DIFFICULT THINGS GET, NO MATTER HOW FOOLISH YOU LOOK STRUGGLING UNDER THE WEIGHT OF YOUR BURDENS, YOU HAVE TO KEEP LIVING...

YOU'VE ONLY GOT THE LUXURY TO WORRY ABOUT THINGS LIKE THIS BECAUSE YOU MADE IT BACK IN ONE PIECE.

IN THE END, WE MADE IT BACK ALIVE, BUT THINGS COULD EASILY HAVE GONE THE OTHER WAY. MORE LOSS, MORE TEARS.

BUT THIS TIME, A LOT WENT DOWN.

THAT'S WHY AL AND I PROMISED HER WE WOULDN'T LET OURSELVES GET KILLED, NO MATTER WHAT!

WHO KNOWS WHAT WOULD'VE HAPPENED IF LIN HADN'T SAVED ME...

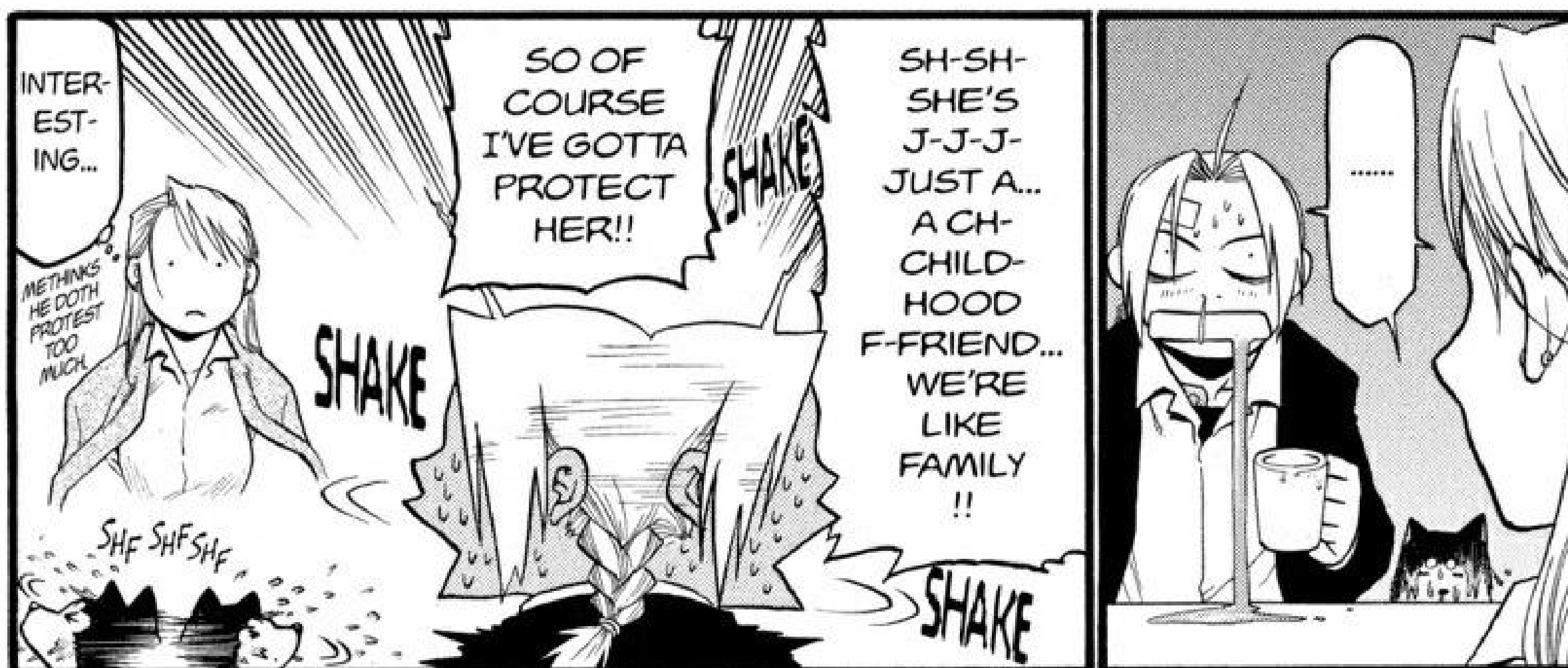
I WORRY EVERYONE... I CAN'T TAKE CARE OF MYSELF...

I REALLY AM PATHETIC.

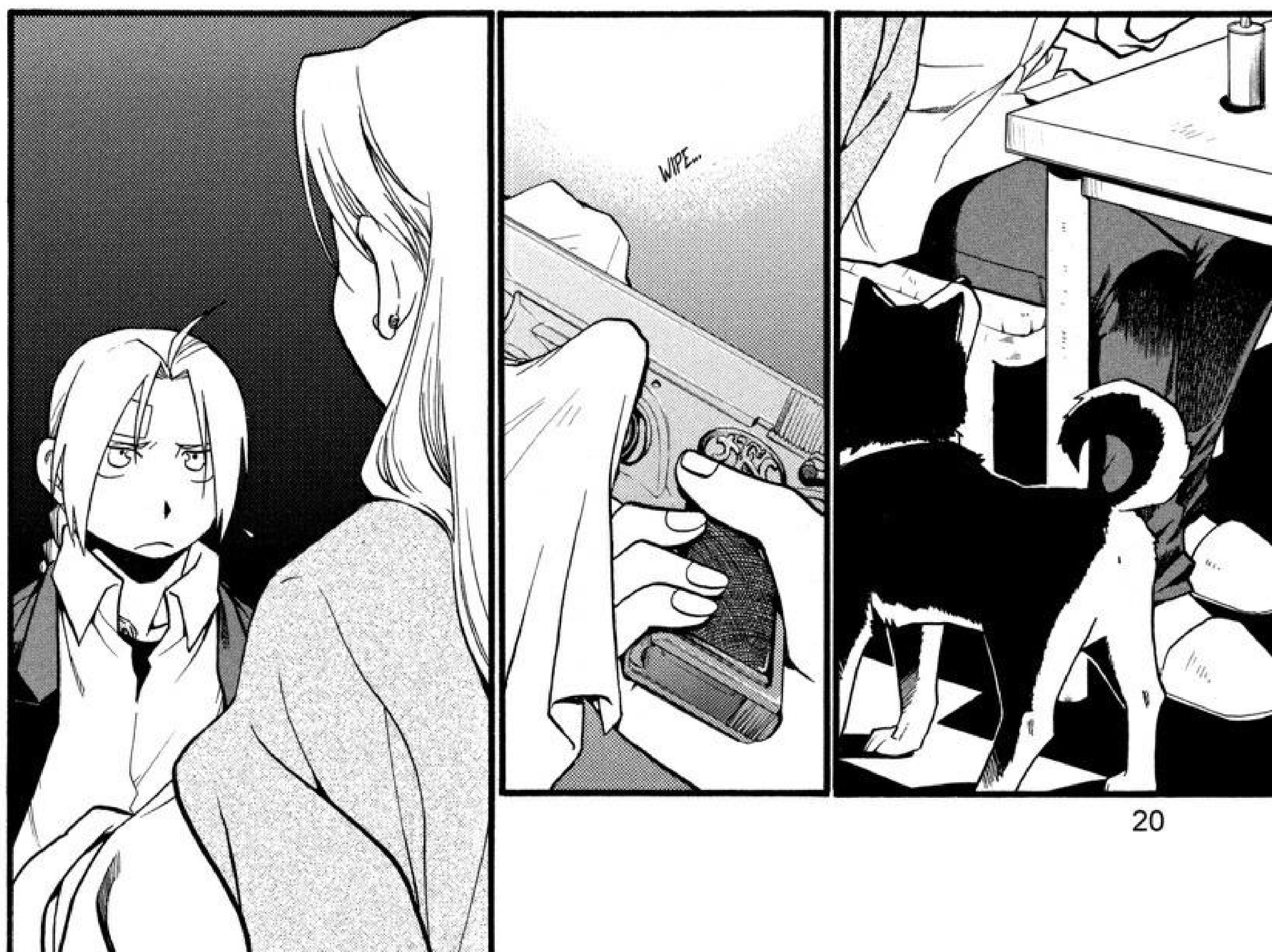


HUH?

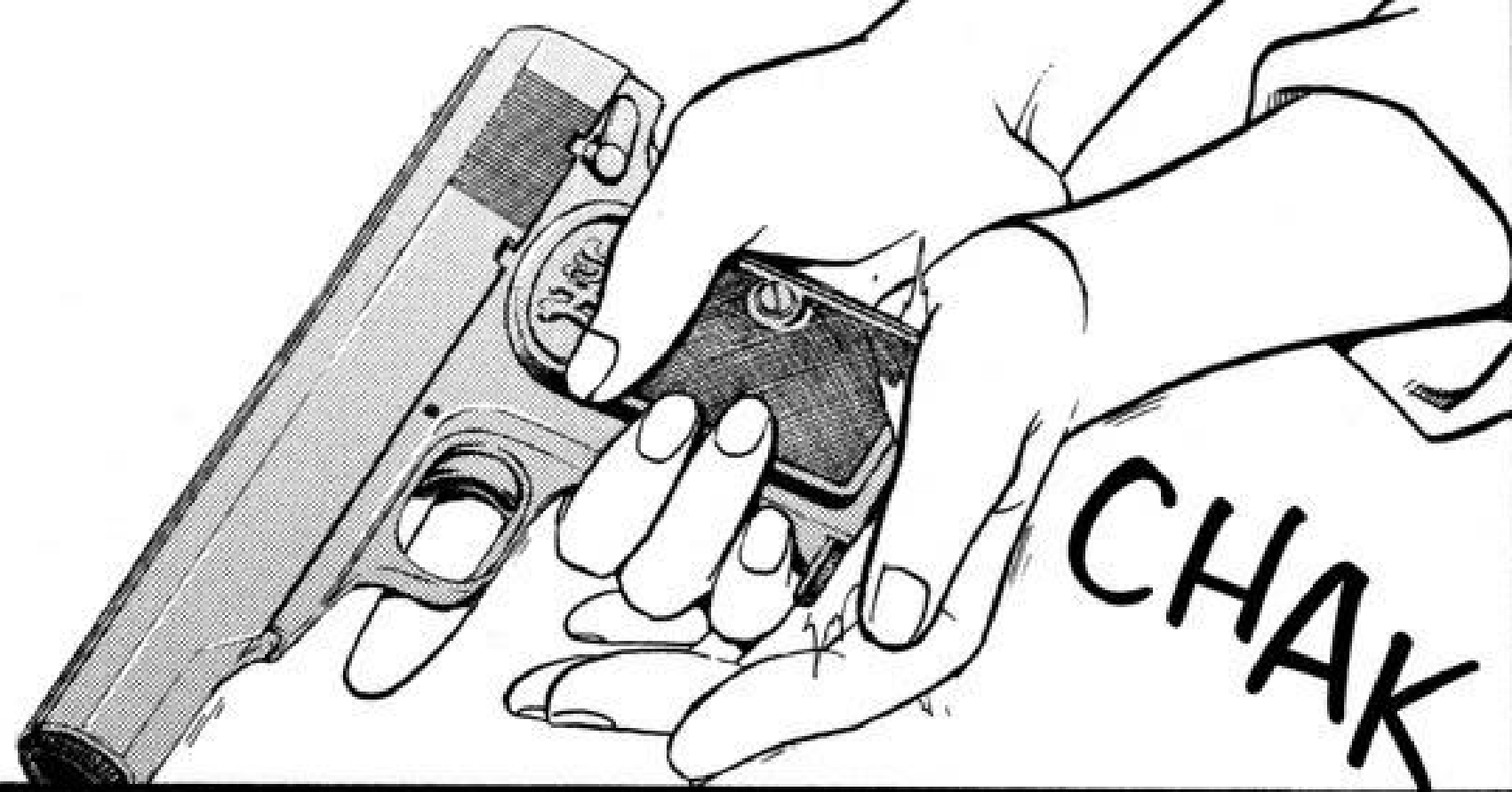
YOU HAVE TO PROTECT HER.







I CAN ONLY SPEAK FROM MY OWN EXPERIENCE THERE.



AFTER THAT, I WAS DRAGGED DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO THE WAR ZONE.



I WAS OSTENSIBLY DEPLOYED TO ISHBAL BECAUSE MY SCHOOL WAS IN THE EASTERN REGION, BUT THE MAIN REASON WAS THE TROOP SHORTAGE ON THE ISHBALAN FRONT. THEY TOOK ANYONE THEY COULD GET.



AS YOU KNOW, CADETS ARE SENT TO THE BATTLEFIELD DURING THEIR FINAL YEAR FOR ON-SITE TRAINING.



I WAS...

...STILL IN THE ACADEMY WHEN I FIRST BECAME INVOLVED IN THE ISHBALAN CAMPAIGN.



BRO-
THER...



BRO-
THER!

ARE
YOU
IN
THERE
?



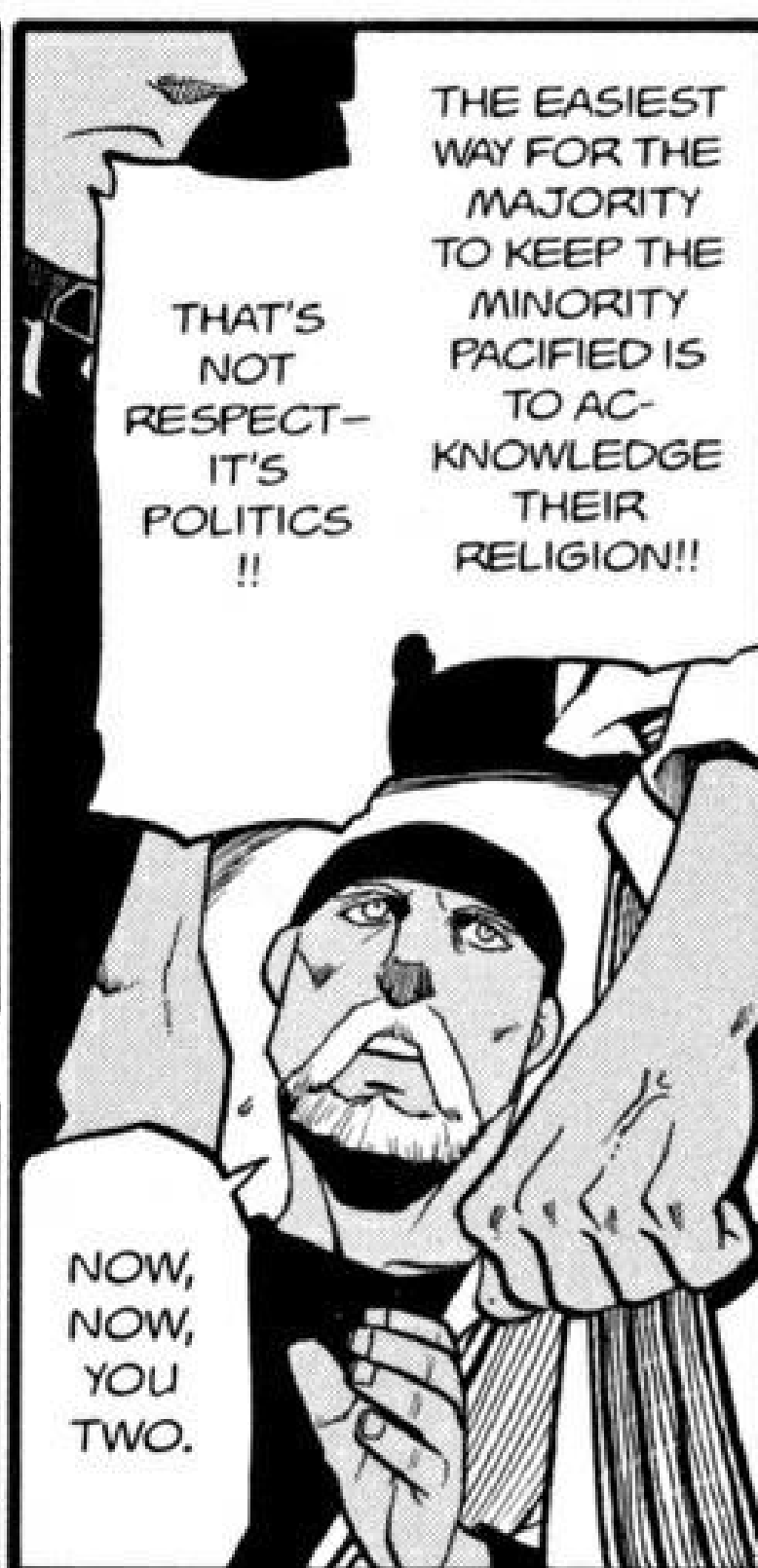
IT'S NOT
SURPRISING THAT
AN ENVIRONMENT
LIKE THAT GAVE BIRTH
TO A RELIGION WITH
SUCH A SEVERE CODE
OF CONDUCT-OR
THAT THEIR PEOPLE
BECAME SO
RESILIENT.



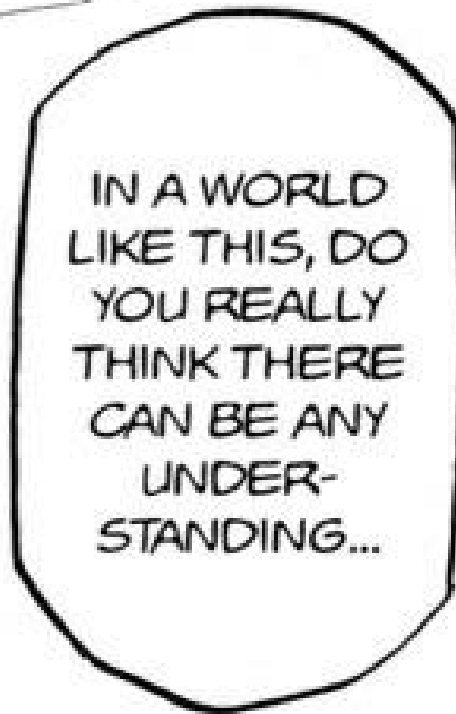
ISHBAL IS
A HARSH
COUNTRY
FILLED WITH
NOTHING
BUT ROCKS
AND SAND.













NOW
PUT
OUT
YOUR
LEG.

BE THAT
AS IT
MAY, I'M
STILL
MORE
THAN
WILLING
TO GIVE
YOU
TREAT-
MENT.

MY
FATHER
WAS SHOT
AND KILLED
BY YOU
BASTARDS
!!

I'D
RATHER
DIE THAN
BE
TREATED
BY AN
AMESTRIAN
!!



ALL RIGHT,
JUST AS
SOON AS
THERE
ARE NO
MORE
PATIENTS
HERE.

PUT
YOUR
LEG
OUT.

NEVER,
AMESTRIAN!
GET OUT
OF MY
COUNTRY!!



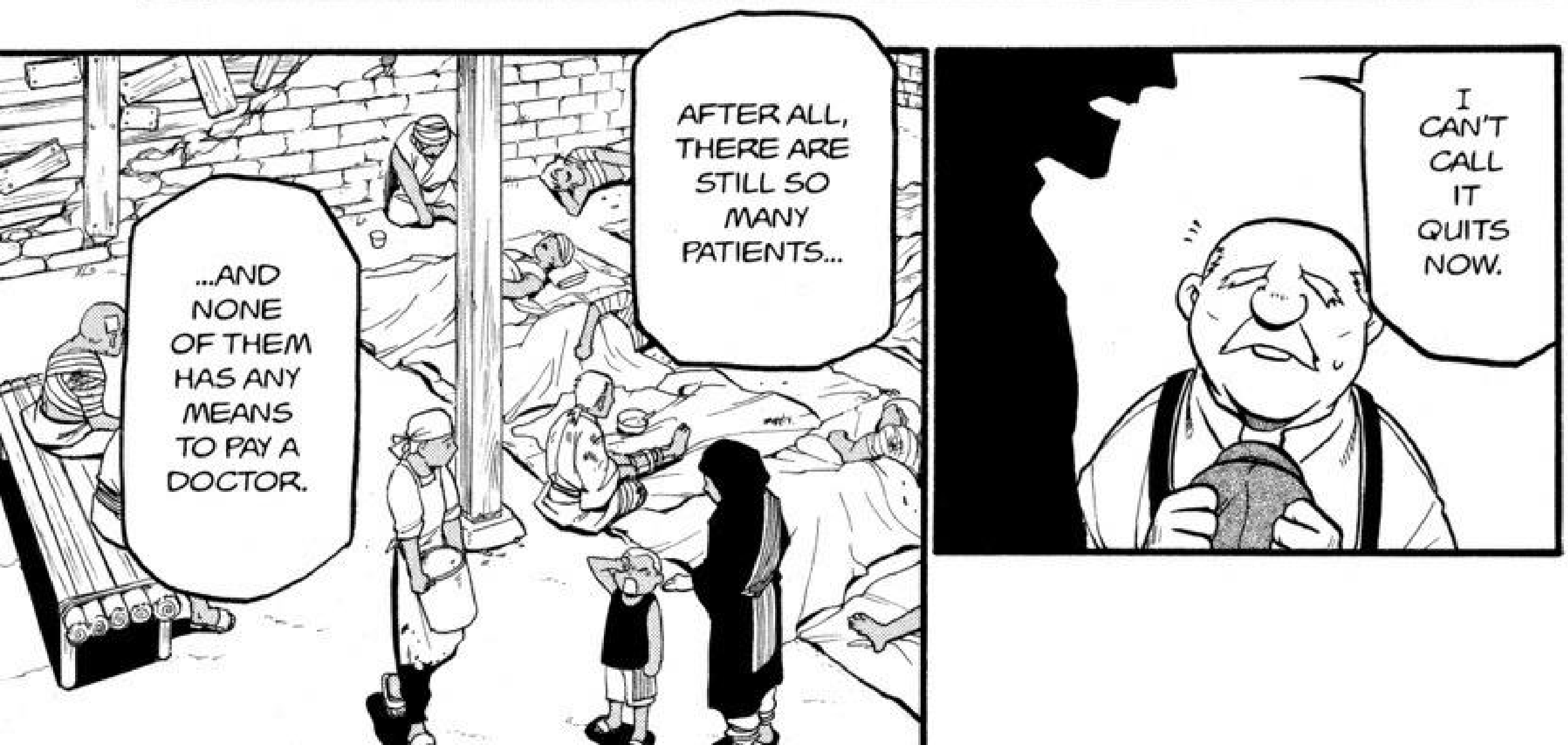
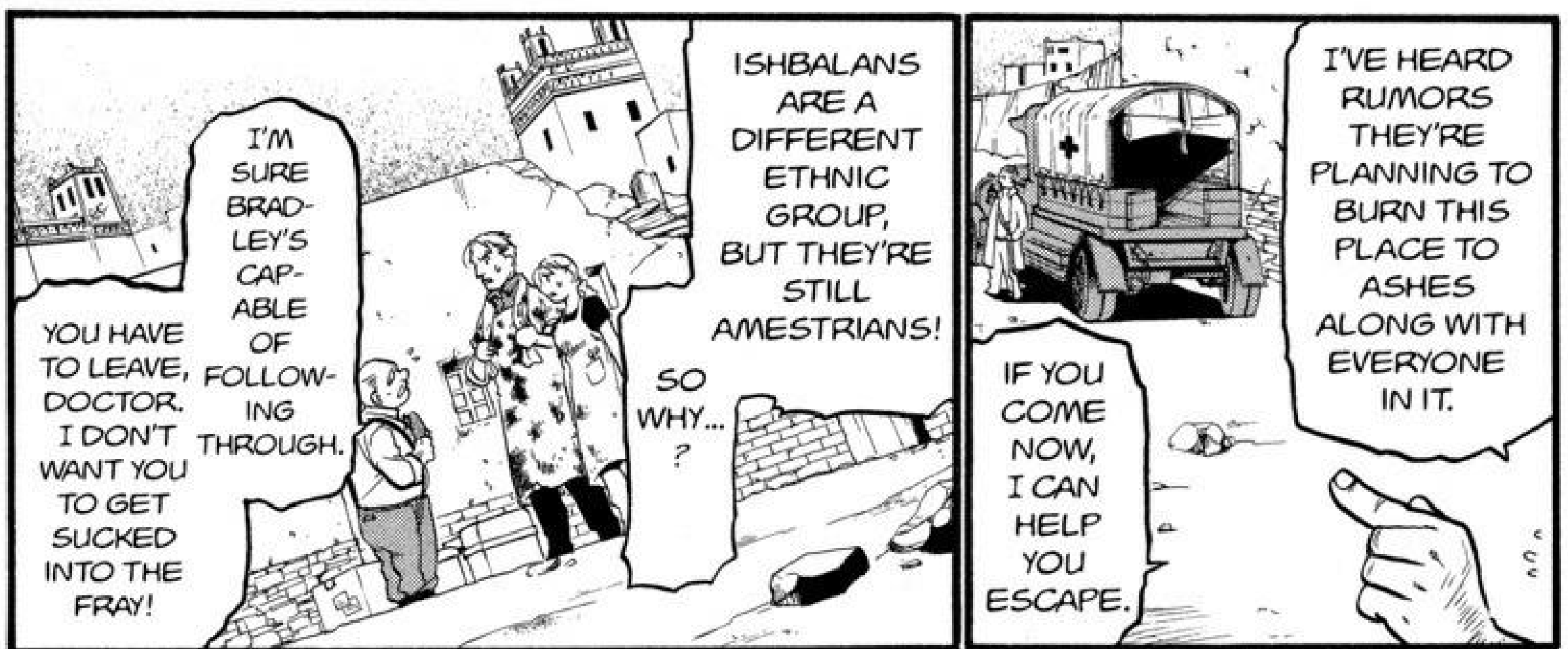
IT'S
BETTER
TO BE A
FRAUD WHO
DOES
SOMETHING
THAN A
DOCTOR
WHO DOES
NOTHING!

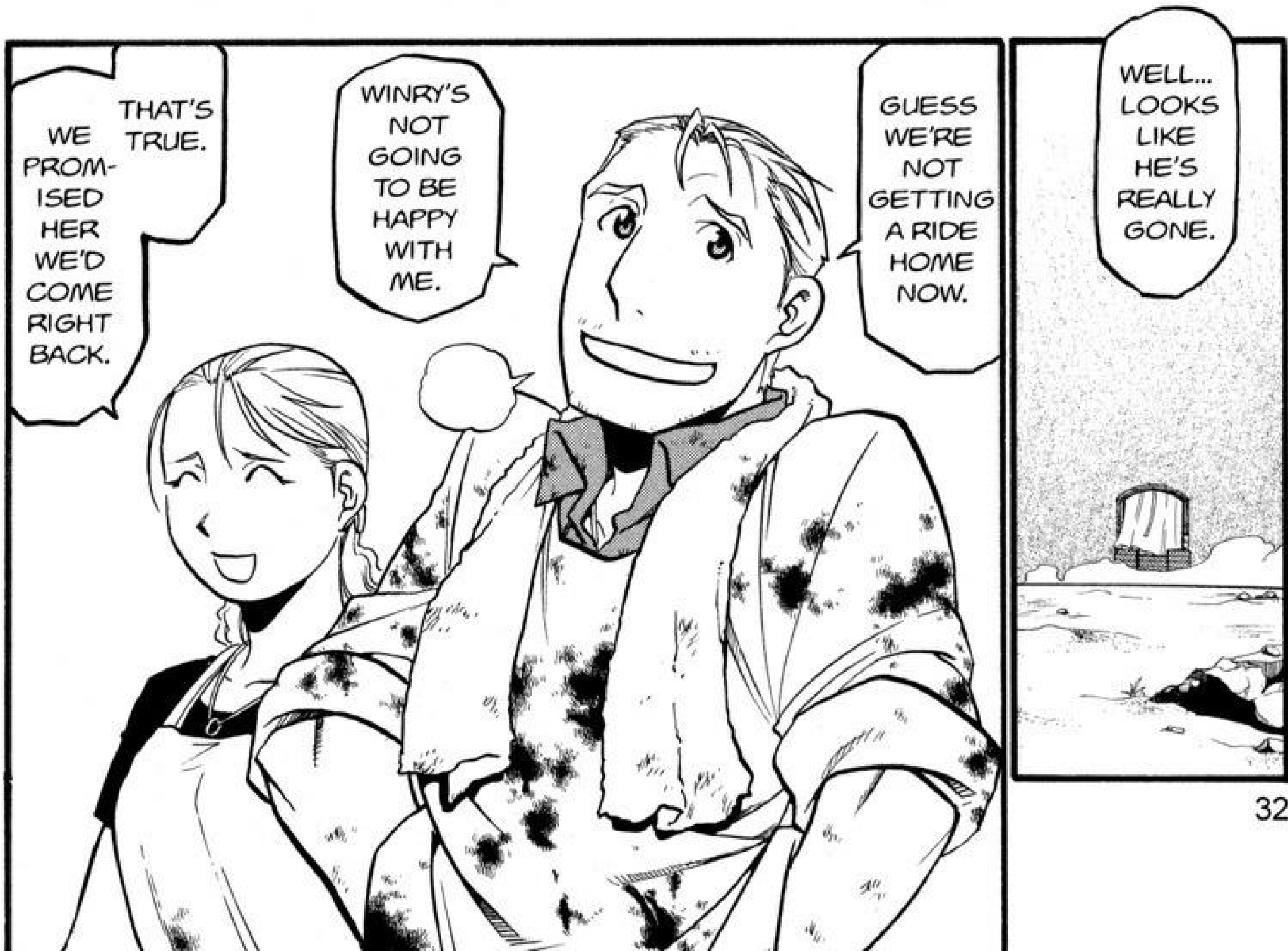
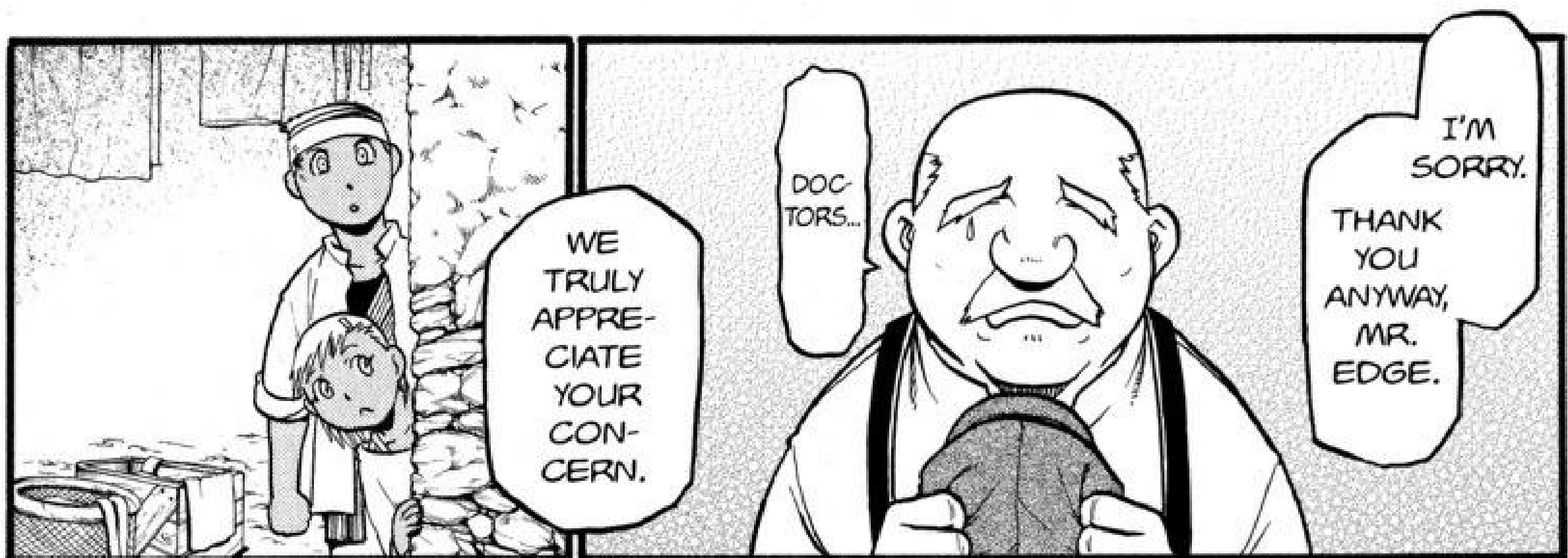
CALL
ME
WHAT-
EVER
YOU
LIKE
!!

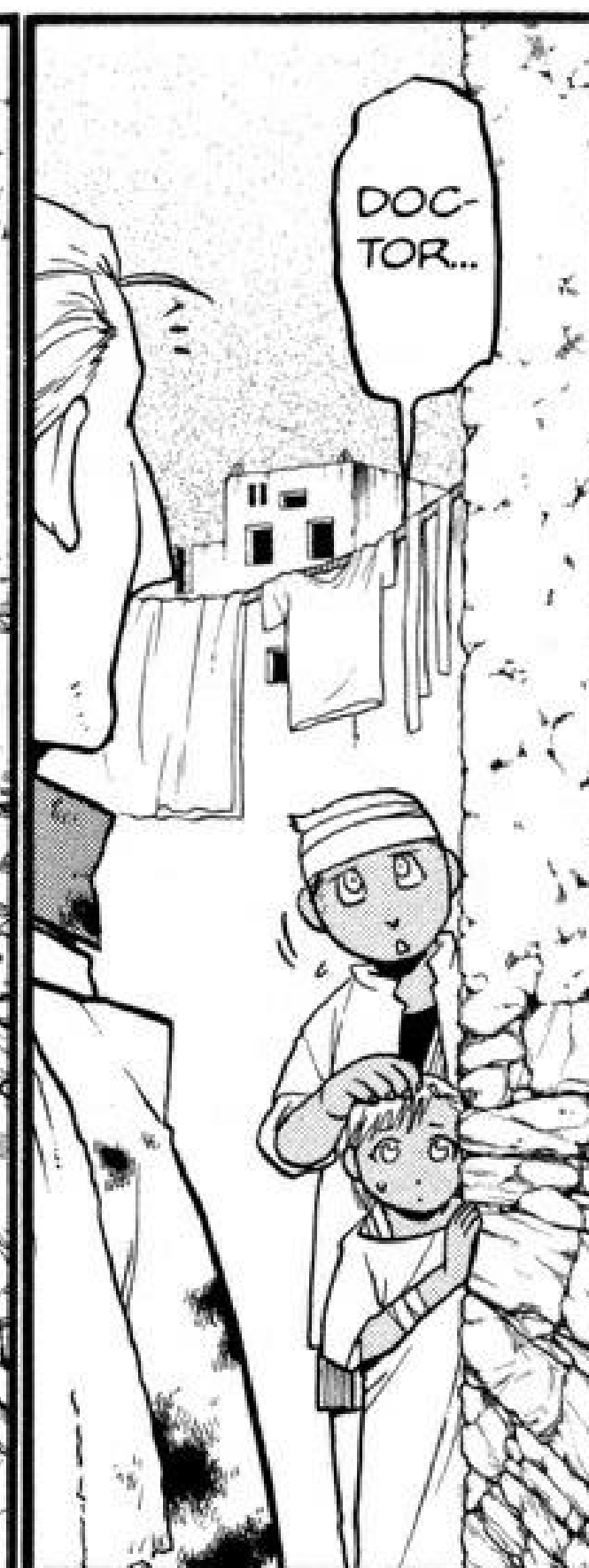
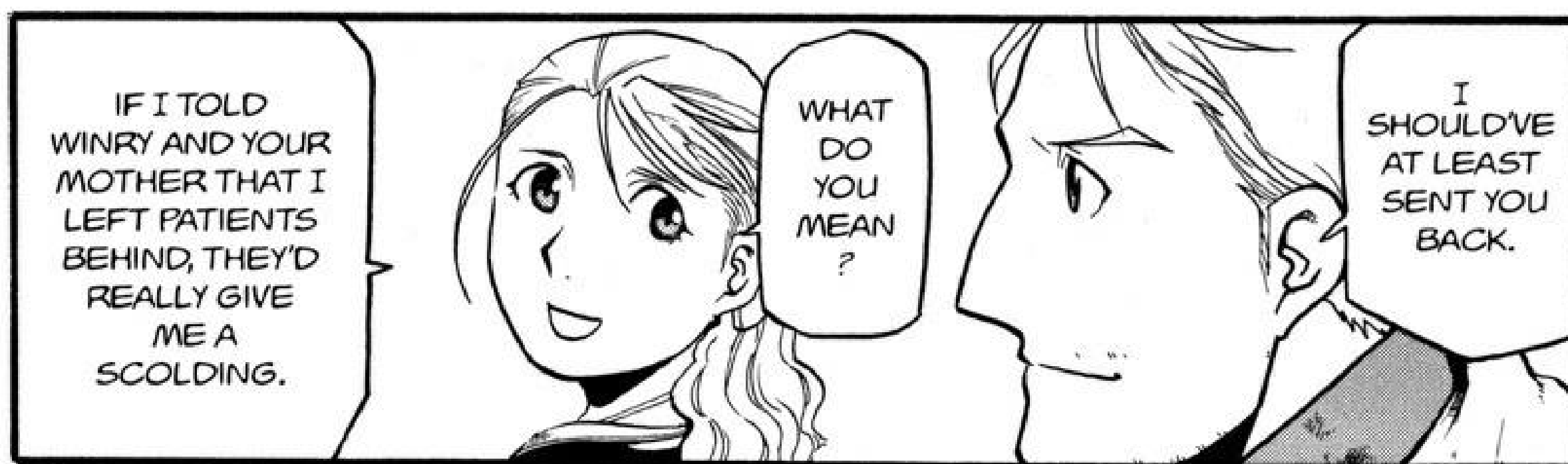
YOU'RE
A
FRAUD
!!

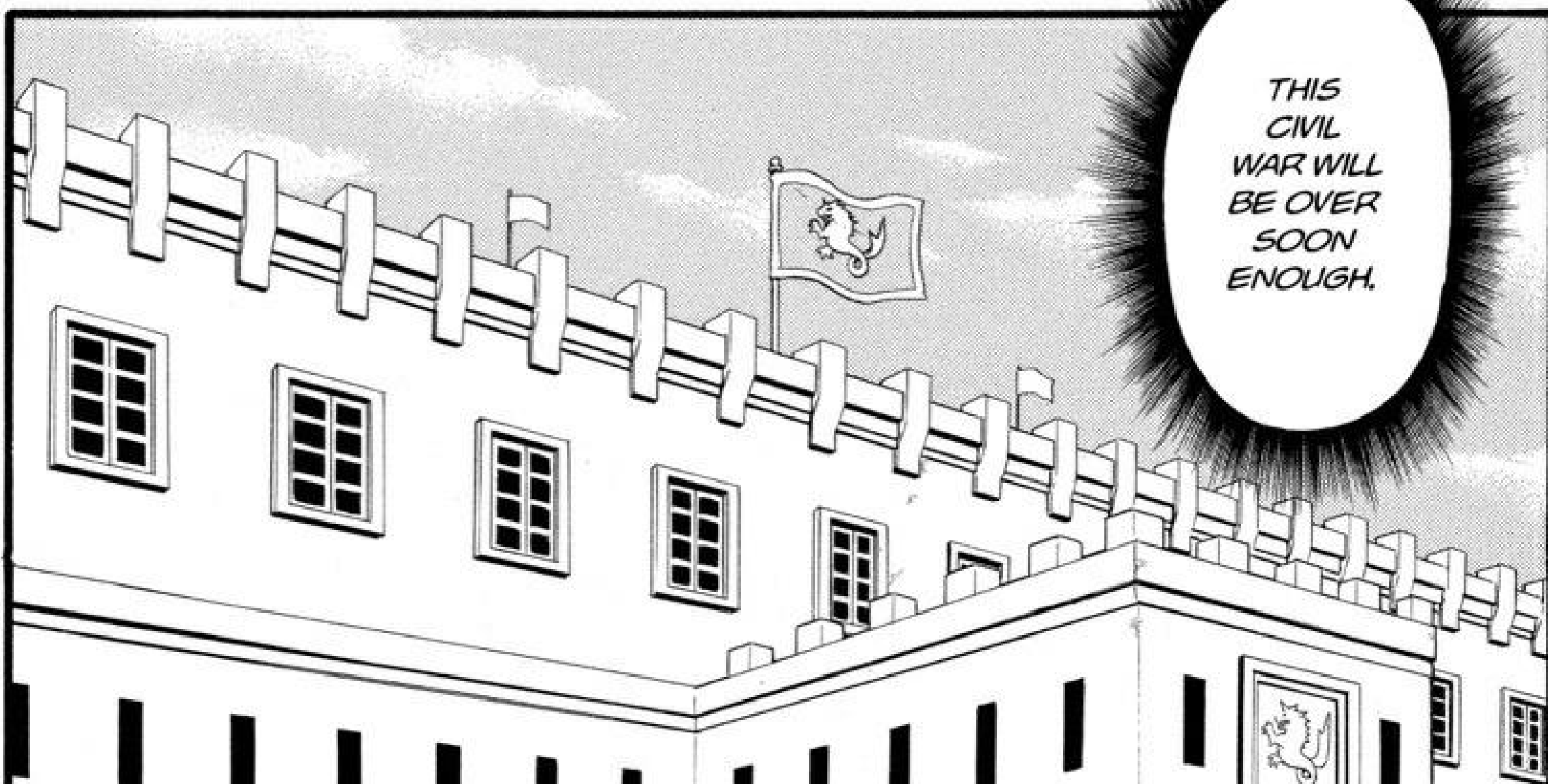
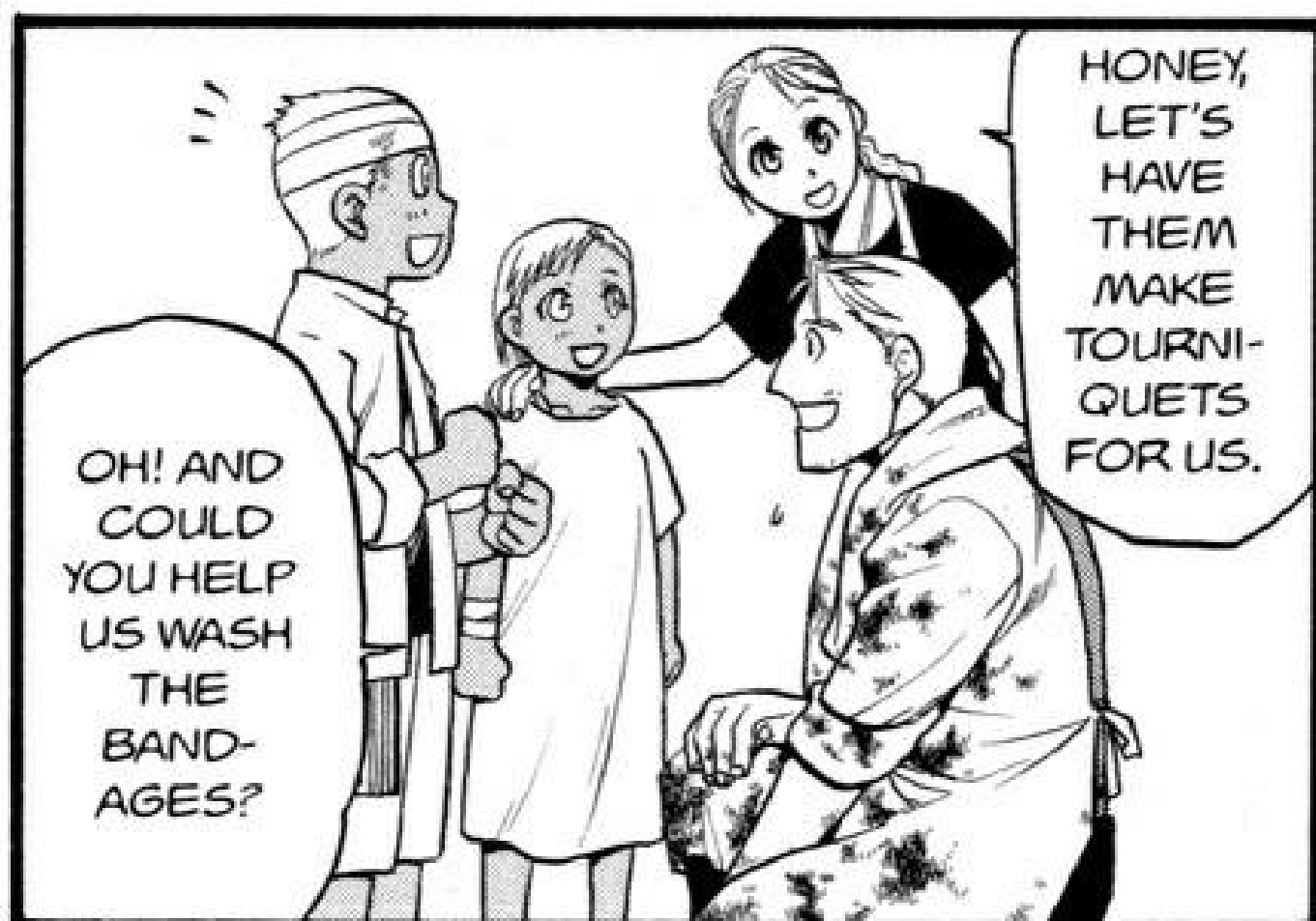
YOU THINK
YOU'RE A SAINT
BECAUSE YOU
PATCH UP A FEW
PEOPLE WHILE
YOUR STINKING
COUNTRYMEN
ARE OUT THERE
MURDERING
ISHBALANS!?

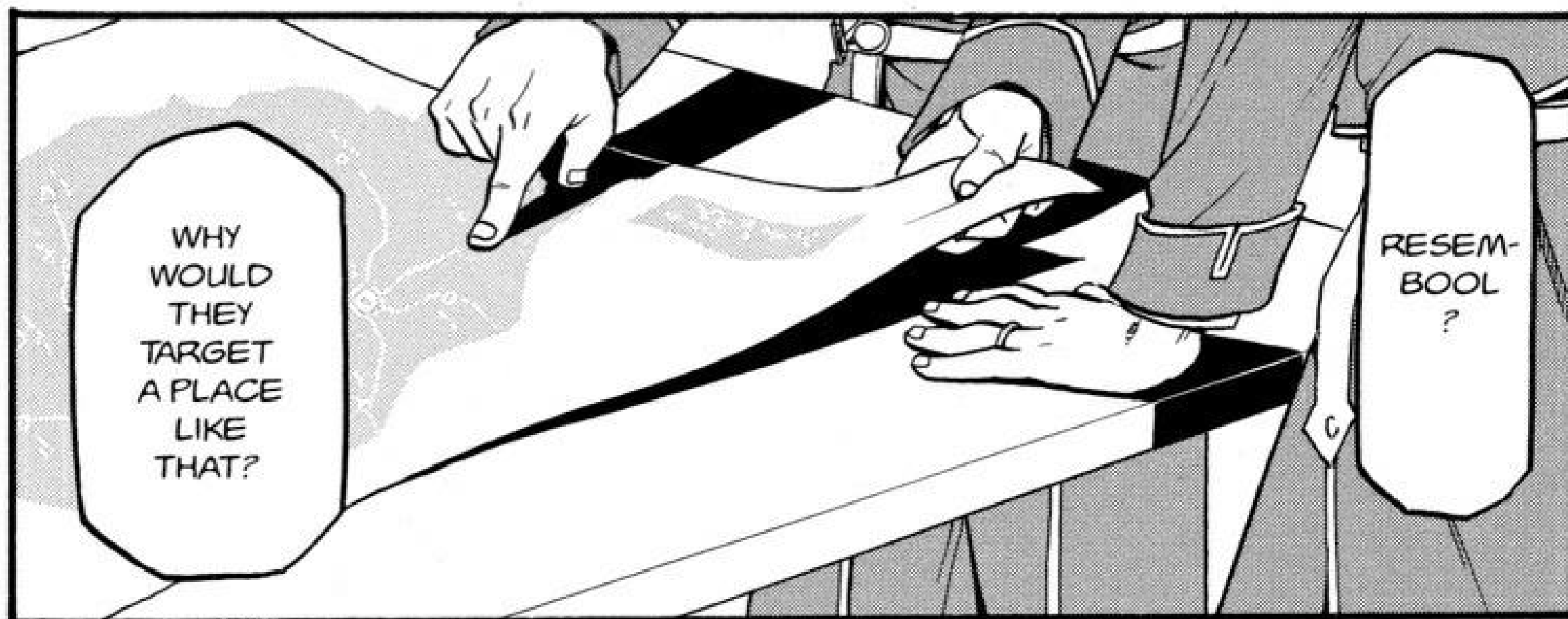












WHY WOULD THEY TARGET A PLACE LIKE THAT?

RESEMB-BOOL?



THEIR BOMB TOOK OUT EVERYTHING FOR BLOCKS AROUND THE RESEMBOOL TRAIN STATION.

HOW COULD THEY GET THEIR AGENTS THAT FAR INTO A RURAL AREA LIKE THAT!?

THAT'S THE ONLY REASON?

THAT REGION PRODUCES THE WOOL THAT'S USED TO MAKE MILITARY CLOTHING.

THOSE TERRORISTS WILL TARGET ANYTHING NO MATTER HOW LOOSELY IT'S CONNECTED TO THE MILITARY!

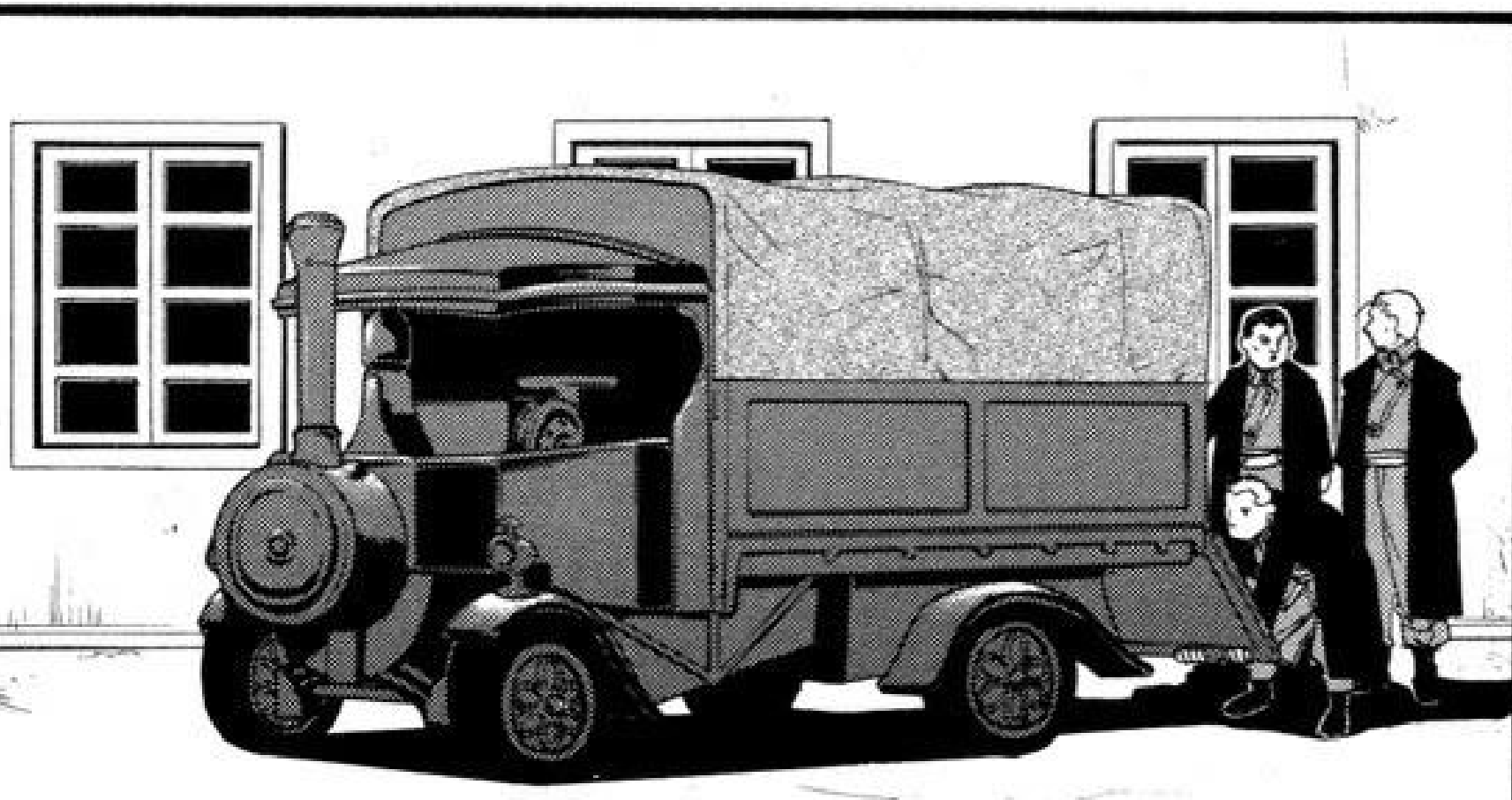


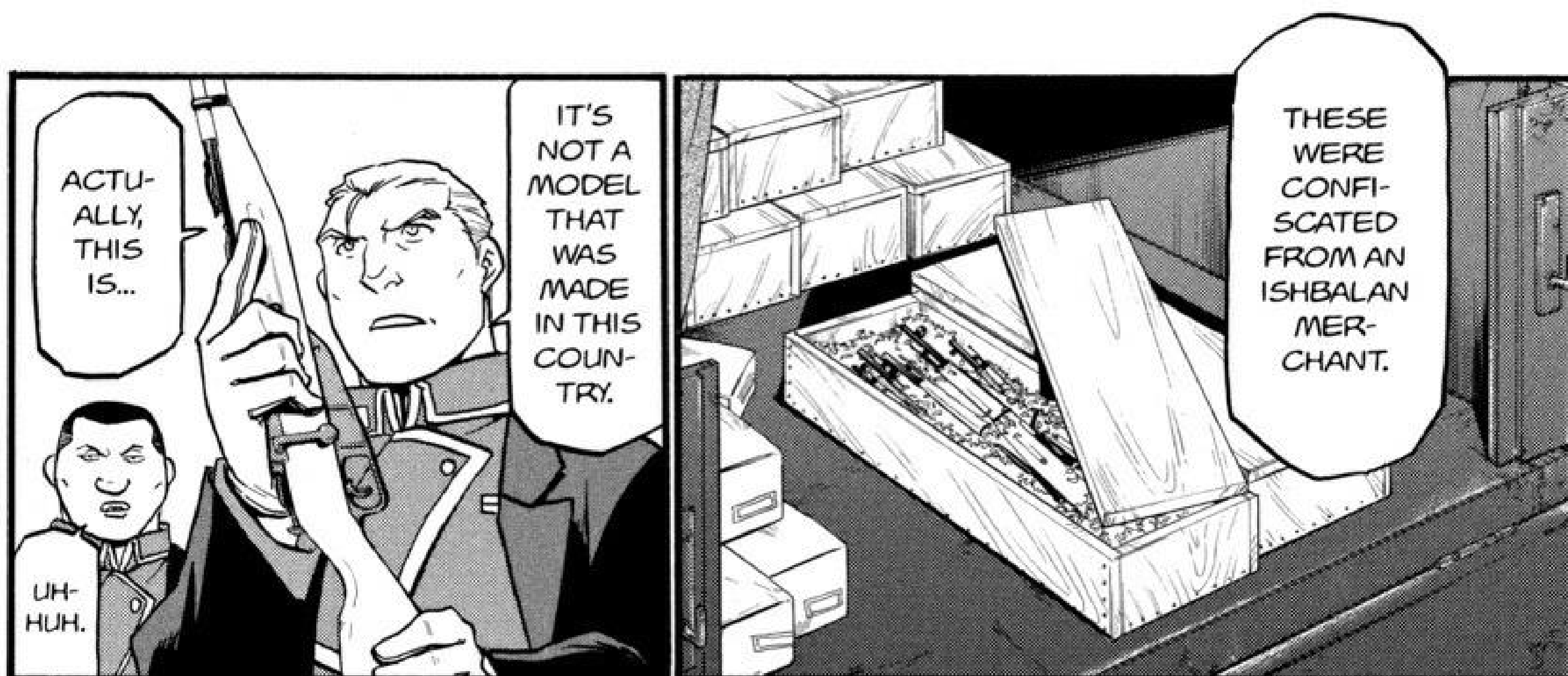
THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD SEE, SIR.



GENERAL HAKU-RO!

THOSE DAMNED ISHBALANS !!



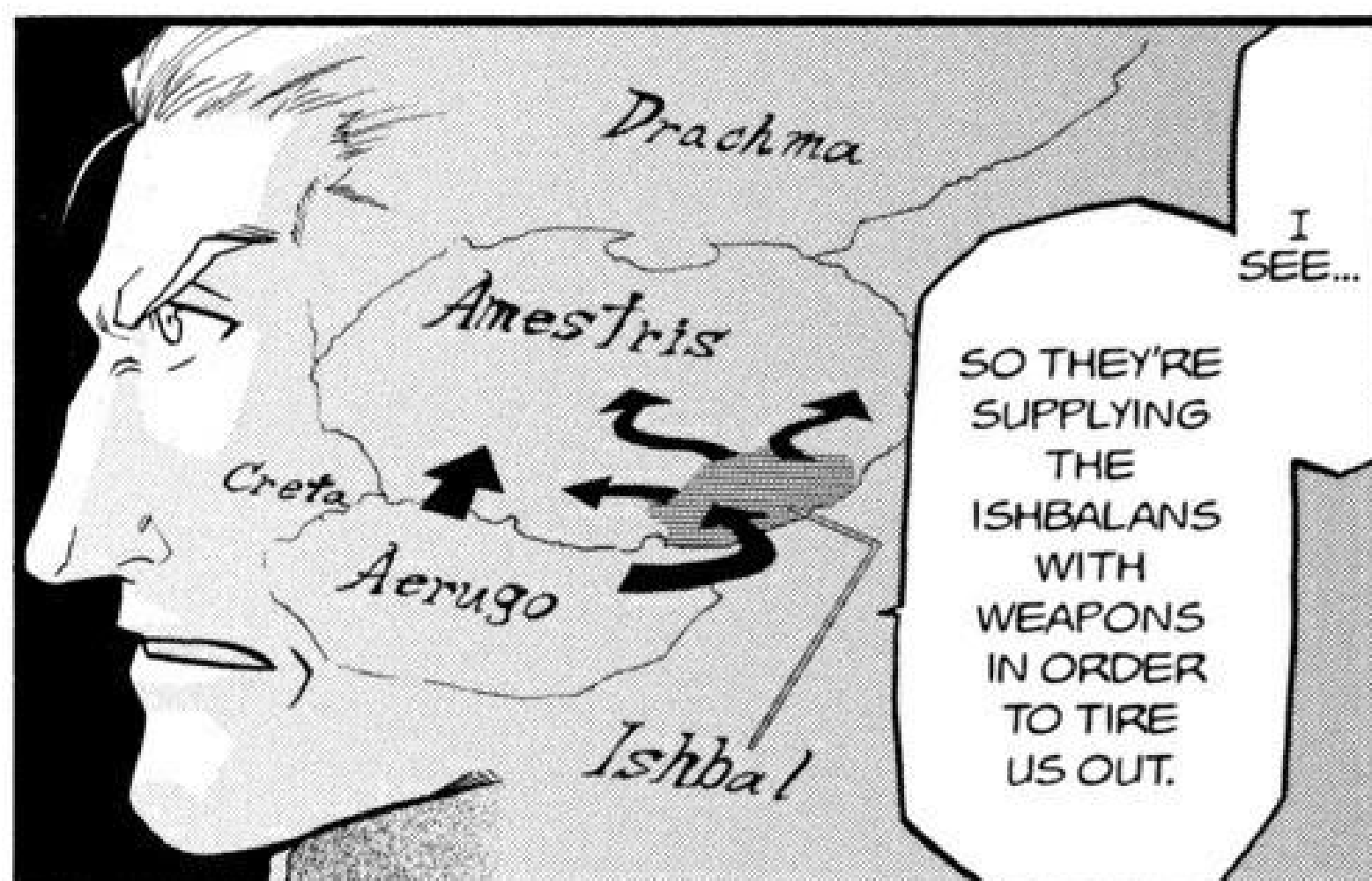


ACTUALLY, THIS IS...

UH-HUH.

IT'S NOT A MODEL THAT WAS MADE IN THIS COUNTRY.

THESE WERE CONFISCATED FROM AN ISHBALAN MERCHANT.



I SEE...

SO THEY'RE SUPPLYING THE ISHBALANS WITH WEAPONS IN ORDER TO TIRE US OUT.



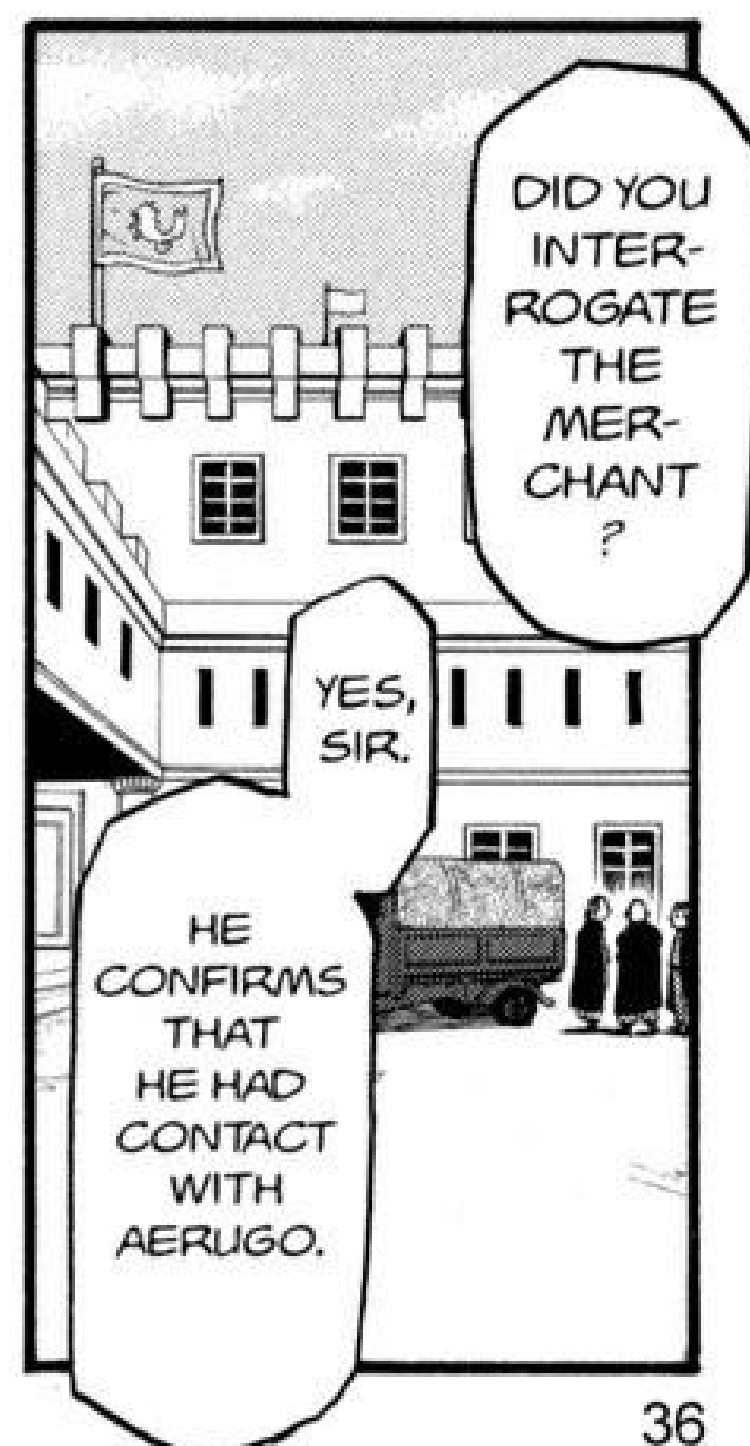
IT'S A STANDARD-ISSUE MILITARY RIFLE FROM AERUGO.

THE AERUGO MILITARY'S STAMP HAS BEEN SCRATCHED OUT.



I WAS WONDERING WHERE THEY WERE GETTING THE RESOURCES TO CONTINUE THIS WAR SO STUBBORNLY FOR SEVEN YEARS. NOW WE KNOW.

AERUGO WAS THEIR PATRON.



DID YOU INTERROGATE THE MERCHANT?

YES, SIR.

HE CONFIRMS THAT HE HAD CONTACT WITH AERUGO.



NO MATTER HOW MANY TROOPS WE SEND, IT STILL WON'T BE ENOUGH.

THE ISHBALANS SPECIALIZE IN GUERRILLA TACTICS—THEIR SOLDIERS ARE INTRACTABLE, THEIR RESOLVE UNSHAKEABLE.

WE CANNOT AFFORD TO LET THIS WAR DRAG ON ANY LONGER.



FIRST, LET'S CLEAN UP OUR IMMEDIATE SURROUNDINGS.

WELL, THEN...

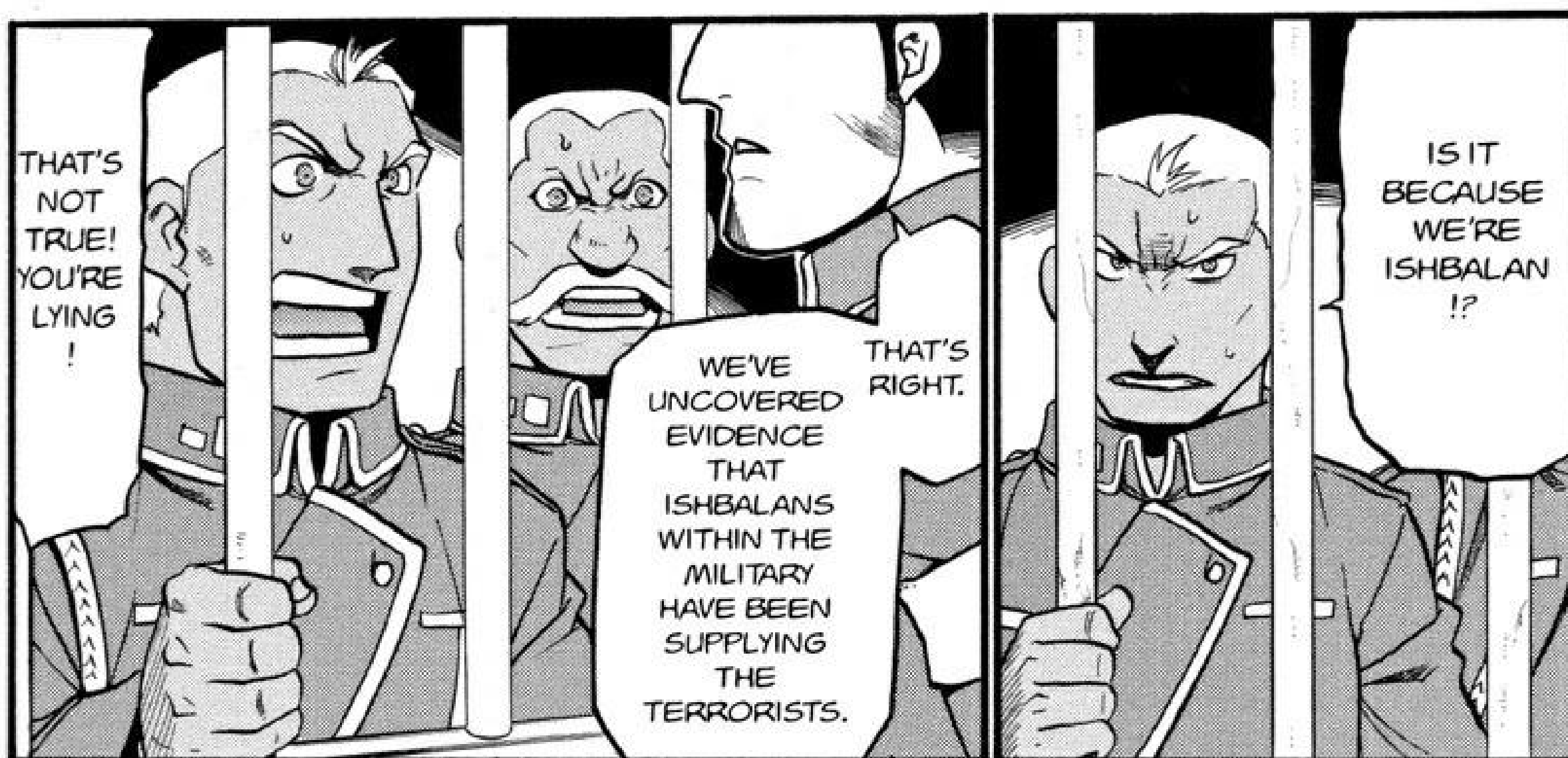


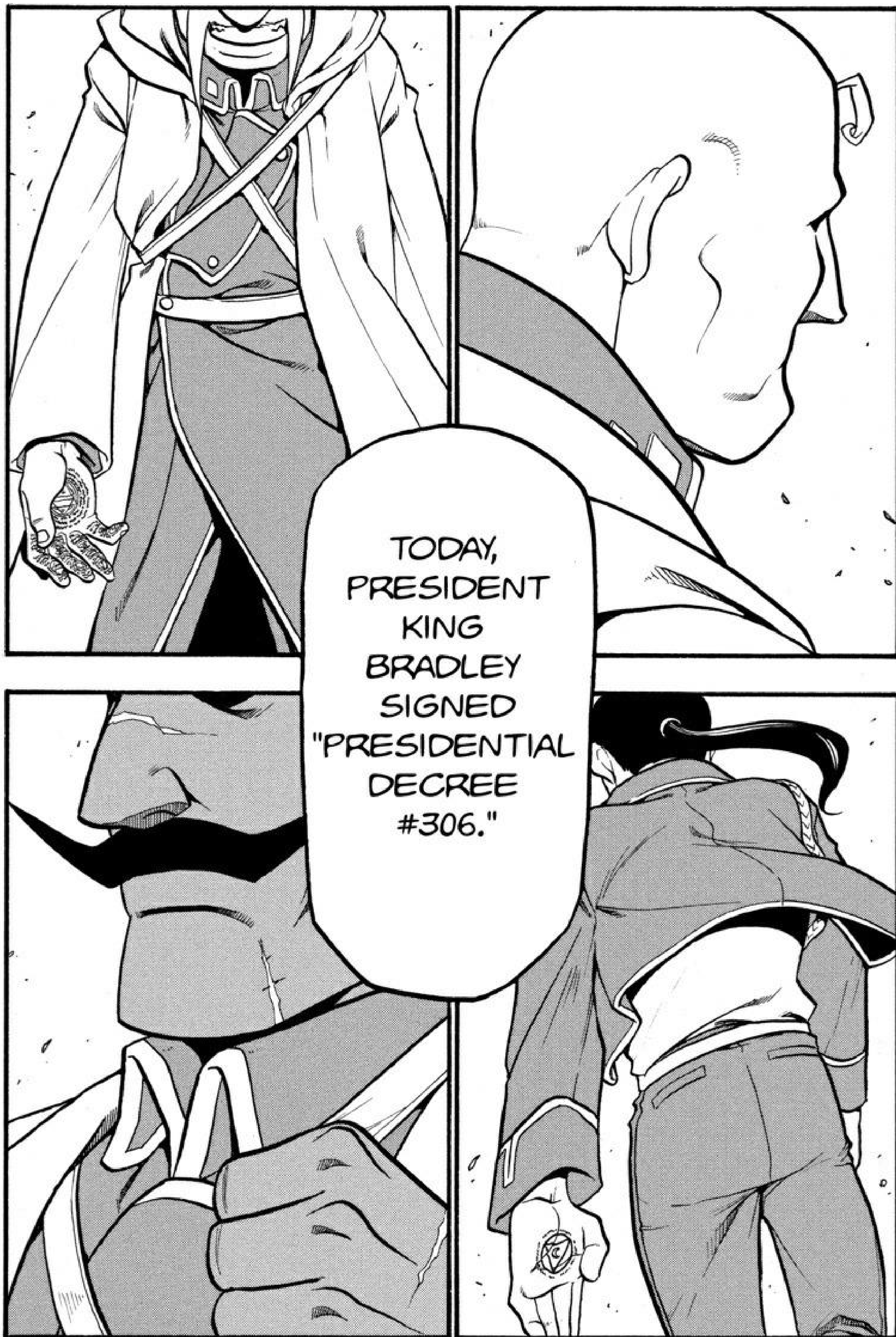
I DEMAND AN EXPLANATION !!

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS !?



GAS HANK







THE
CIVIL
WAR
WILL
SOON
COME
TO AN
END.



THE
ISHBAL
PRISON
CAMP IS
ABOUT
TO GO
INTO
OPER-
ATION.





FULLMETAL
ALCHEMIST